

Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music (Professional Performance)

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

NOTE: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detail on the specific learning outcomes, indicative content and the teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found (1) in the Module Specification Handbook, and (2) in the Student Handbook. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be checked within independent review processes undertaken by the Quality Assurance Agency.

The information from this specification may be selectively extracted and included in documents that are more appropriate for students, intending students and employers.

1	Awarding Institution / Body:	Birmingham City University
2	Teaching Institution:	Birmingham Conservatoire
3	Programme accredited by:	n/a
4	Final Award:	AdvPGDip in Music (Professional Performance)
5	Programme Title:	AdvPGDip in Music (Professional Performance)
6	CUKAS Codes:	AdvPGDip: W311 (FT), W312 (PT)
7	QAA Benchmarking Group:	n/a

8 Aims of the programme

The programme aims to provide learners with:

- the opportunity to develop musical skills to professional performance standard
- the opportunity to deepen musical comprehension, structural awareness and interpretative skills
- the opportunity to develop originality and artistry in the presentation of musical styles
- presentation and communication skills
- career guidance

9 Intended learning outcomes and the means by which they are achieved and demonstrated: the programme provides learners with opportunities to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes as follows:

<p>9.1 Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • instrumental and/or vocal techniques and interpretation • a broad musical repertoire • performance conventions • performance practice issues 	<p>Teaching, learning and assessment methods used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual lessons, coaching, workshops, masterclasses • assessed by examination in public performance or professional rehearsal conditions • lectures and seminars • assessed by seminar presentation
<p>9.2 Skills and other attributes</p>	
<p>9.2.1 Intellectual/Cognitive skills</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ability to embody knowledge in original musical performance • knowledge of recent performance scholarship and critical techniques • knowledge of the historical development of performance styles • a critical awareness of the relationship between musical text and sounding performance • the ability to recognize and evaluate features of style and interpretation in performances of other musicians • the ability to utilize such critical evaluation in the forging of an individual interpretation • bibliographical skills pertinent to the study of performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a programme of lectures and seminars plus individual tutorials • assessed by seminar presentation
<p>9.2.2 Practical, Research and Independent learning skills</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • instrumental techniques and interpretation at the highest level of performance (<i>instrumental, accompaniment and opera repetiteur divisions</i>) • vocal techniques and interpretation at the highest level of performance (<i>vocal division</i>) • language skills (<i>vocal and opera repetiteur divisions</i>) • coaching and score-reading skills (<i>opera repetiteur division</i>) • movement and stagecraft (<i>vocal division</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual lessons, workshops, masterclasses • coaching sessions • language, movement and drama classes • orchestral rehearsals (<i>concerto assessments</i>) • operatic production rehearsals • assessed by examination in three public performances (<i>all except opera repetiteur division</i>) • <i>opera repetiteur division</i> assessed by examination in one public workshop performance and two assessments in professional rehearsal conditions
<p>9.3.3 Key/Transferable skills</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ability to apply skills and knowledge to the solution of complex problems of interpretation • the ability to communicate effectively in speech and in writing • the formulation and development of career plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching and learning as described above • demonstrated through performance, essay and seminar presentation • individual tutorials within the <i>Professional Portfolio</i> module

10 Programme structure and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

The structure of the course, the modules, levels and credit ratings, and the awards which can be gained are shown below. Modules in which Personal Development Planning is an integral part of the learning process are underlined.

Module number	Module name	Credits (Level 8)
HM0801	Performance Modules - <i>students choose one of four divisions:</i>	45
HM0802		Instrumental Performance
HM0803		Vocal Performance
		Piano Accompaniment
	Opera Repetiteur	45

Module number	Module name	Credits (Level 7)
HM0714	Performance Practice – <i>all students</i>	30
HM0701	Professional Portfolio – <i>all students</i>	15

Award: Advanced Diploma in Music (Professional Performance)

11 Support for Learning

Students are encouraged to identify and, with guidance, to reflect on their own learning needs and are offered the following support as appropriate to those needs:

Conservatoire Staff

- Performance Modules (First Study) Tutor
- Personal Tutor: has general responsibility for each student's welfare, personal and academic
- Course Director: plans assessment programme, offers general and personal advice and provides feedback after assessments; usually functions also as Personal Tutor
- Academic Studies Tutor: provides tutorial support
- Head of Professional Development: provides careers advice
- Heads of Schools: offer help and advice in specialist study areas
- Registrar: offers advice on administrative, financial and personal matters
- Assistant Registrar: has particular responsibility for the welfare of international students
- Head of Technology: assists students to produce CD recordings of their performances
- Librarian: provides introductions to Library services, and offers seminars and further assistance as required, including use of CD-ROM and online services

Conservatoire Facilities

- practice rooms
- recording and editing facilities
- library
- IT facilities

AdvPGDip Course Board of Study

Conservatoire Faculty Board

Student/Staff Committee

- student representation

University Services

- Staff and Student Development Department: study skills, English language
- Student Services: health, counselling, disability; chaplaincy; creche; finance; careers
- Union of Students: financial and legal advice *etc*

Publications

- AdvPGDip Course Document
- AdvPGDip Staff/Student Handbook

12 Criteria for admission

Candidates must satisfy the general admissions requirements of the programme, which are normally as follows:

- a) a postgraduate degree/diploma
- or
- b) substantial verifiable public performance experience

13 Evaluation and improvement of quality and standards

Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AdvPGDip Course Board of Studies• AdvPGDip Examinations Board• Conservatoire Faculty Board• UCE Birmingham Committee for Academic Regulations and Policies• UCE Birmingham Senate	Mechanisms for review and evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Validation and Review events• External Specialist Assessors' Reports• External Examiners' Reports• Student feedback• Annual Course Reports• Conservatoire Annual Monitoring Reports• Advice from UCE Birmingham's Academic Quality and Support Unit
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14 Regulation of assessment

The course is subject to the provisions of the University's *Standard Postgraduate Assessment Regulations*. Details of the mechanisms and criteria for assessment in individual modules, and the means of determining final degree classifications, are published in the *Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music (Professional Performance) Course Document* and *Student/Staff Handbook*. Individual and collective guidance is given by academic staff on their operation at appropriate times throughout the course.

To qualify for the **Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music (Professional Performance)** a student must successfully complete all required assessments. The pass-mark in each of the modules is 50% (this is an approved exemption from the standard regulations).

The award of **Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Music (Professional Performance) with Distinction** is made to students who

- a) pass each of the three *Performance Module* assessments *at the first attempt*;
 - b) gain an average mark for the *Performance Module* assessments of at least 70%
- and
- c) pass the *Performance Practice* and *Professional Portfolio* modules.

An External Examiner is appointed. His/her work includes:

- approving assessment criteria
- monitoring standards through moderation of assessments
- attending Examinations Boards
- participating in the review and validation process.