

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Bachelor of Arts Programme in Music

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The Music Programme consists of seven different types of courses which are taught using distinctive learning modes. All courses are 6-credit courses. Contact hours are generally in a range of 24-36 hours for a 6-credit course, though there are some exceptions. Research courses have minimal contact hours (6-12 hours for a 6-credit course) because students do independent research work under the guidance of a supervisor. Fieldwork courses also have minimal contact hours (6-12 hours for a 6-credit course) as students engage in learning in the field under the guidance of a supervisor. Contact hours for Performance Study courses and Advanced Music Performance courses are fewer (20-24 hours) because students engage in independent learning experiences. As a general guide, regardless of the teaching method used, the total output should not be more than 5,000 words for a 6-credit course, except for Research courses, which may require students to submit a written piece of work of between 5,000–10,000 words. Most courses are assessed with 100% continuous assessment. Class participation may be counted as a percentage of a student's overall grade in some courses. The seven categories of Music courses may be summarised as follows:

1. *Introductory courses* (6 credits)

These first-year courses emphasise the learning of analytical or writing skills as an introduction to the discipline. Teaching is by lectures and workshops and/or field trips. Assessment is by student portfolios and small weekly assignments, with an output of not more than 3,000 words. Assessment is by 100% coursework.

2. *Survey courses* (6 credits)

These courses focus on content and are taught predominantly by lectures and tutorials/seminars. Assessment methods are left up to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks will normally include the writing of essays, reports, and in-class tests totalling no more than 5,000 words. Assessment is by 100% coursework.

3. *Fieldwork courses* (6 credits)

These courses focus on the study of music through participating in a variety of cultural contexts. Fieldwork activities may be arranged during the academic year or during the summer semester. Fieldwork courses begin with a small number of lecture hours but are predominantly practical in nature. Assessment is generally through portfolio work or fieldwork reports of not more than 5,000 words in total.

4. *Seminar courses* (6 credits)

These courses focus on musicological/compositional issues/methodologies and are taught in a combination of lectures and seminars with a heavy emphasis on private reading and research. Assessment is by various methods comprising essays, research reports, seminar

reports, journals, portfolios, and seminar presentations totalling no more than 5,000 words. Some of these seminar courses are designed as a capstone experience.

5. Research courses (6 credits)

These courses aim at providing students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interests under the supervision of a teacher. Contact hours are minimal because students spend much of their time on individual research and writing. Assessment is through a single piece of research work in form of a paper of not more than 5,000 words or a dissertation of not more than 10,000 words or a portfolio of music compositions. Some of these research courses are designed as a capstone experience.

6. Performance Study courses (6 credits)

Students taking a Performance Study course have to enrol in two performance ensembles or workshops over two semesters. Performance ensembles are designed to give students the practical experience of music-making in a variety of contexts. The assessment of ensembles often includes a public performance during the academic year. Performance workshops are designed to develop and reinforce good performance practices which are essential for making further progress. The assessment of performance workshops usually includes a performance examination at the end of the academic year. One Performance Study course is designed as a capstone experience.

7. Advanced Music Performance courses (6 credits)

Advanced Music Performance courses are intended for students who are interested in developing more concentrated and selected performance skills over two semesters under the supervision of a vocal or instrumental teacher approved by the department. In addition, two to four 2-hour masterclasses may be arranged each year for the Advanced Music Performance students. The assessment of these courses usually includes a formal recital at the end of each semester as well as a practical exam. One Advanced Music Performance course is designed as a capstone experience.