

Music



Exam Board Edexcel

Qualification GCE AS-Level / GCE A-Level

Entry Requirements Students who would benefit most from studying a GCE in Music are likely to have a Level 2 qualification such as a GCSE in Music at grade 6+

Content (Outline of Course)

Component 1: Performing
Non-examined assessment: externally assessed
30% of the qualification: 60 marks

Component 2: Composing
Non-examined assessment: externally assessed
30% of the qualification: 60 marks

Component 3: Appraising
Written examination: 2 hours
40% of the qualification: 100 marks

Assessment

Performance Assessment Overview:
A recital of eight minutes. This can be a longer piece or a programme made up of several shorter items.

Composition Assessment overview:
Two compositions, one of which is the student's free choice and the second is to a brief set by the board.

Appraising Assessment Overview:

Section A: Areas of study and dictation (50 marks)

- Three questions related to the set works (audio and skeleton score provided).
- One short melody/rhythm completion exercise.

Section B: Extended response

- Two essay questions – essay one (20 marks) and essay two (30 marks)
- Essay one asks students to draw links from their study of the set works to the music heard as an unfamiliar extract.
- Essay two gives a choice of three questions that ask students to evaluate the musical elements, context and language of one set work. Each option will be from a different area of study.

Careers Guidance

Music helps you to develop a variety of skills such as analysis, dedication, group skills, self-confidence and self-reliance, as well as providing a means of artistic expression and relaxation. Plus, it stretches your imagination and playing an instrument also makes you think and react quickly. Skills such as these are not just prized within music careers; they are valuable to all types of employers.

Music is a highly regarded academic subject and whether you take it with a view to a career in music or as an additional A-level subject, it is held in high esteem by universities and other institutions of higher education. Most people, however, study Music because they love it and you will have plenty of practical opportunities to develop your talents. This qualification supports progression into higher education, training or employment, such as a degree in music or vocational courses such as a BTEC HND or HNC in Music.