

Module Specification

Module Title: Professional Studies 3: Music Journalism

Module code:	X_SHR6E038P	NQF level:	Level 6
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Optional	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Music (Business/Classical/Film Music/Folk/Jazz/Popular/Production/Songwriting)		

Module overview

Students will investigate journalistic issues such as the ethical dilemmas faced by journalists in a multi-media environment in order to understand the significance of the relationship between music artists, their audiences and the music critics. Further developing an understanding of one's own aesthetic approach to writing reviews and critically evaluating the variety of stylistic possibilities available in print and online media will enable the production of a sophisticated portfolio of articles. Technical skills such as interviewing, reviewing and writing to a brief alongside the legal and ethical considerations are key areas of exploration.

Aims

This module addresses a range of skills needed to undertake journalistic practices and includes important considerations relating to ethics. It forms part of the programme's professional studies strand and its commitment to enhancing employment opportunities and a portfolio career.

The module aims to:

1. Consider the evolving landscape of music journalism and its impact on the music industry, as well as other associated fields such as magazine production, copyrighting, social media management, web designing, PR and education.
2. Enhance understanding of the different perspectives of music journalists, so that students may deal with the media more effectively, and introduce students to the concepts and current practices of journalistic writing including print and online.
3. Investigate journalistic issues such as the ethical dilemmas faced by journalists in a multi-media environment in order to produce critically engaged articles.
4. Develop research and writing knowledge linked to a specified interest area.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Understand the ethical issues underpinning journalism.
2. Critically reflect on the published context of music-based articles and analyse the important factors influencing the writing.
3. Write with an emerging personal style in a variety of contexts.
4. Experiment, as appropriate, with forms, conventions, languages, techniques and practices within music journalism and feature writing forms to produce a variety of journalistic output.

Learning and teaching methods

This module will be delivered through a lecture and seminar series.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	30 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	170 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will receive formative assessment through seminar sessions.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework	2000 words	50%	1, 2
Portfolio of commercially publishable/useable journalistic material	2000 words	50%	3, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework	2000 words	50%	1, 2
Portfolio of commercially publishable/useable journalistic material	2000 words	50%	3, 4

[Module resource lists are available via Key Links](#)