

A Level Music Technology

▶ EdExcel 2022 - St Francis of Assisi



The examination board is **EdExcel**

The course consists of **4 units over 2 years for A Level.**



A Level Music Technology



- ▶ 100% Pass Rate 2019
- ▶ A* - E ~ 100% (NA 97.5%)
- ▶ A* - C ~ 66% (NA 63%)
- ▶ 100% Pass Rate 2021/ 2022
- ▶ A* - E ~ 100% (NA 97.5%)
- ▶ A* - C ~ 100% (NA 97.5%)



A Level Music / Tech

- ▶ **ALL A LEVEL MUSIC STUDENTS SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED THEIR FIRST CHOICE OF UNIVERSITY**

A Level Music Tech and Music

- ▶ Successful applications to the
Birmingham conservatoire



A Level Music Tech

Progression to Higher Education

The content allows students to develop their knowledge and skills of music, enabling them to progress into undergraduate music or music related degree courses



Why study Music Technology A Level?

- ✓ Opens doors to many careers.
- ✓ Allows you to develop as a producer, composer and develop your understanding of the world of music technology.
- ✓ Because you love to listen to, compose and produce music!



Entry Requirements

- ▶ Study of Music at GCSE (or similar course)
- ▶ To be able to perform on a musical instrument or sing at Grade 4 standard or above at the beginning of the course.



A Level Music Technology

- ▶ **Component 1 ~ Recording (20%)**
- ▶ **Component 2 ~ Technology based composition (20%)**
- ▶ **Component 3 ~ Listening and analysing (25% Exam)**
- ▶ **Component 4 ~ Producing and Analysing (35% Exam/practical)**



Component 1: Recording

- ▶ ***Non-examined assessment:***
- ▶ ***externally assessed 20% of the qualification***
- ▶ **Content overview:**
Production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording.



Component 1: Recording

- ▶ **Assessment overview**
- ▶ One recording, chosen from a list of 10 songs provided by EdExcel, consisting of a minimum of five compulsory instruments and two additional instruments
- ▶ Keyboard tracks may be sequenced.
- ▶ Total time must be between 3 minutes and 3½ minutes.
- ▶ Logbook and authentication form must be supplied.



Student Work Examples

▶ Recording 2022



Component 2: Technology-based composition

- ▶ *Non-examined assessment: externally assessed 20% of the qualification*
- ▶ **Content overview:**
- ▶ **Creating, editing, manipulating and structuring sounds to produce a technology-based composition.**



Component 2: Technology-based composition

▶ Assessment overview

- ▶ One technology-based composition chosen from three briefs set by EdExcel
- ▶ Synthesis and sampling/audio manipulation and creative effects use must be included.
- ▶ Total time must be 3 minutes.
- ▶ Logbook and authentication form must be supplied.



Student work 2022

▶ Technology Based Composition



Student work 2022

▶ Technology Based Composition



Component 3: Listening and analysing

- ▶ *Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes*
- ▶ *25% of the qualification*
- ▶ **Content overview**
- ▶ Knowledge and understanding of recording and production techniques and principles
- ▶ Application of knowledge related to all three areas of study:
 - ▶ recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes
 - ▶ principles of sound and audio technology
 - ▶ the development of recording and production technology.



Component 3: Listening and analysing

- ▶ **Assessment overview**
- ▶ **This paper comprises two sections: A and B.**
- ▶ **Section A:**
- ▶ **Listening and analysing-** four questions, each based on unfamiliar commercial recordings.
- ▶ **Section B:**
- ▶ **Extended written responses-** two essay questions.
- ▶ **One comparison question,** which uses two unfamiliar commercial recordings.



Component 4: Producing and analysing

- ▶ ***Written/practical examination:***
- ▶ ***2 hours 15 minutes ~ 35% of the qualification***
- ▶ Content overview
- ▶ Knowledge and understanding of editing, mixing and production techniques, to be applied
- ▶ to unfamiliar materials.
- ▶ Application of knowledge related to two of the areas of study:
 - ▶ recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes
 - ▶ principles of sound and audio technology.



Component 4: Producing and analysing



▶ Assessment overview

- ▶ This paper comprises two sections: A and B
- ▶ Each student will be provided with a set of audio/MIDI materials for the practical element of the examination, to include:
 - ▶ audio files relating to three instrumental/vocal parts.
 - ▶ a single MIDI file from which a fourth instrumental part will be created or synthesised.
- ▶ Students will correct and then combine the audio and MIDI materials to form a completed mix, which may include creating new tracks or parts from the materials provided.

Component 4: Producing and analysing

▶ Assessment overview

- ▶ Section A: Producing and analysing- five questions related to the audio and MIDI materials provided that include both written responses and practical tasks.
- ▶ Section B: Extended written response - one essay focusing on a specific mixing scenario, signal path, effect or music technology hardware unit.



Questions?

Please contact

phickman@stfrancis.cc

Mr Hickman

Head of Music



