

Department of Music

About the department

Music at Royal Holloway is internationally renowned and is one of the largest and most distinguished centres for musical study. In the 2021 government-led Research Excellence Framework, Royal Holloway was rated the top university for Music research in the country. The modules listed below are available to all Study Abroad, International Exchange and Erasmus Students, provided that sufficient prior knowledge and experience of the subject can be shown where required. The Department reserves the right to review each application to assess the suitability of the applicant and his/her chosen module(s).

Entry requirements

The modules listed below are open to all Study Abroad, International and Erasmus students, subject to any required previous knowledge or qualifications, as stated in the module outlines below. Each module is either 15 or 30 UK credits and starts in either the Autumn Term (September) or the Spring Term (January).

Level One Modules:

There are no formal pre-requisites, but a background in music and music theory is seen as very beneficial to students. Students without A Level Music or Grade 8 ABRSM Theory (or equivalent) will be required to take MU1111 Fundamentals of Music Theory in their first term.

Level Two Modules:

A solid foundation in the rudiments of Western music (an ability to read music fluently, identify key signatures, rhythms, etc.) plus an understanding of Western harmony (an ability to write and/or identify harmonic progressions) is required for Intermediate modules, as well as completion of any first-year modules at undergraduate level in music theory.

Level Three Modules:

Advanced knowledge and extensive experience in the subject area and at least two years of experience is expected. Please note that these are advanced modules, typically equal to senior year/graduate level work in the USA. Several of the level 2 modules can be taken at level 3 (e.g. MU2301 as MU3301).

The information contained in the course outlines on the following pages is correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change as part of our policy of continuous improvements and development.



royalholloway.ac.uk/MUSIC



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Module options for visiting students 2026-27

Module number	Module title	Run time	UK Credits	Link to Syllabus
MU1110	Theory and Analysis	Term 2	15	MU1110 Syllabus Information
MU1111	Fundamentals of Music Theory	Term 1	15	MU1111 Fundamentals of Music Theory
MU1112v	Creative Composition Techniques	Term 1	15	MU1112v Creative Composition Techniques
MU1114	Very Short History of Music	Term 1	15	MU1114 Very Short History of Music
MU1115	Intro to Hist Musicology	Term 2	15	MU1115 Intro to Hist Musicology
MU1116	Introduction to World Music	Term 1	15	MU1116 Intro to World Music
MU1117	Contemporary Debates	Term 2	15	MU1117 Contemporary Debates in Music
MU2260	Russian Music, Literature and Film	Term 1	15	MU2260 Russian Music, Literature and Film
MU2000	Studies in Music Analysis [High levels of musical literacy required]	Term 1	15	MU2000 - Studies in Musical Analysis
MU2230	Musical Aesthetics	Term 2	15	MU2230 Musical Aesthetics
MU2982	The String Quartets of Dmitri Shostakovich [High levels of musical literacy required]	Term 2	15	MU2298 The String Quartets of Dmitri Shostakovich



royalholloway.ac.uk/MUSIC



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Module options for visiting students 2026-27

Module number	Module title	Run time	UK Credits	Link to Syllabus
MU2004	Studies in Music, Media and Technology	Term 2	15	MU2004 Studies in Music, Media & Tech
MU2298	Shostakovich String Quartets	Term 2	15	MU2298 Shostakovich String Quartets
MU2286	Wagner's Ring	Term 2	15	MU2286 Wagner's Ring
MU2002	Studies in Music History	Term 2	15	MU2002 – Studies in Music History
MU2353	Orchestras Around the World	Term 1	15	MU2353 Orchestras Around the World
MU2304	Issues in Music, Sound and the Moving Image	Term 2	15	MU2304 Syllabus Information
MU2411	Music, Environment and Ecology	Term 2	15	MU2411 Music, Environment and Ecology
MU2318	Sibelius and Northern Europe	Term 2	15	MU2318 Sibelius and Northern Europe
MU2354	Classical Canon and Popular Culture	Term 1	15	MU2354 Classical Canon and Popular Culture
MU2357V	Creative Entrepreneurship	Term 1	7.5	MU2357V Creative Entrepreneurship
MU2357	Creative Entrepreneurship	Full Year	15	MU2357 Syllabus Information
MU2410	Music and Video Games	Term 1	15	MU2410 Music and Video Games
MU3298	The String Quartets of Dmitri Shostakovich [High levels of musical literacy required]	Term 2	15	MU3298 The String Quartets of Dmitri Shostakovich



royalholloway.ac.uk/MUSIC



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Module options for visiting students 2026-27

Module number	Module title	Run time	UK Credits	Link to Syllabus
MU3253	Mozart's Operas	Term 1	15	MU3253 Mozart's Operas
MU3260	Russian Music, Literature and Film	Term 1	15	MU2260 Russian Music, Literature and Film
MU3230	Musical Aesthetics	Term 2	15	MU3230 Musical Aesthetics
MU3286	Wagner's Ring	Term 2	15	MU3286 Wagner's Ring
MU3353	Orchestras Around the World	Term 1	15	MU3353 Orchestras Around the World
MU3411	Music, Environment and Ecology	Term 2	15	MU3411 Music, Environment and Ecology
MU3318	Sibelius and Northern Europe	Term 2	15	MU3318 Sibelius and Northern Europe
MU3304	Issues in Music, Sound and the Moving Image	Term 2	15	MU3304 Syllabus Information
MU3410	Music and Video Games	Term 1	15	MU3410 Music and Video Games
MU3357	Creative Entrepreneurship	Full Year	15	MU3357 Syllabus Information



royalholloway.ac.uk/MUSIC



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON