



MMCC3032

Music at the Limits: Experimentation and Innovation

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	4
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	5
<u>Late Assessment Policy</u>	6

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Convenor Adrian Renzo adrian.renzo@mq.edu.au
Credit points 10
Prerequisites 130cp at 1000 level or above
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit addresses musical experimentation and innovation. It examines key movements, innovations, and major ideas that have shaped, and continue to shape, the evolution of musical forms and practices. The unit also addresses contemporary approaches to musical hybridity and sound production as related to contemporary performance practice in a globalized environment. This includes approaches to songwriting and digital production. In particular, the unit will explore examples of musical creativity such as progressive rock, jazz, psychedelic music, punk/post-punk, ambient, mash-up, minimal techno and electronics, glitch and noise, post-rock and post-classical music. Students will gain a current and historical overview of the dynamic pattern of innovative ideas in music across writing, performance and production.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

- ULO1:** demonstrate an historical knowledge of the seminal moments in contemporary music practice.
- ULO2:** evaluate critically the way changes in musical practice reflect broader changes within society.
- ULO3:** analyse the way technological developments affect musical practice.
- ULO4:** synthesise and communicate independent judgement in musical experimentation.

ULO5: utilise historical models to assess and/or create musical works.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Concept Essay	40%	No	5pm 9 April 2020
Creative Work OR Analysis	60%	No	5pm 5 June 2020

Concept Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **5pm 9 April 2020**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will write an essay based on a topic chosen from a list of options provided by the lecturer. The essay topics will draw on unit content and require students to explore concepts of experimentation in contemporary music. The essay will require students to demonstrate their understanding for the way particular music practitioners stretched the boundaries of conventional music practice.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate an historical knowledge of the seminal moments in contemporary music practice.
- evaluate critically the way changes in musical practice reflect broader changes within society.
- analyse the way technological developments affect musical practice.
- synthesise and communicate independent judgement in musical experimentation.

Creative Work OR Analysis

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 60 hours

Due: **5pm 5 June 2020**

Weighting: **60%**

There are two options for this assignment. The first is more creatively oriented while the second is more analytically oriented. The assessment takes the form of either 1) a creative task or 2) an analytical task.

1. Create a musical work that uses ideas examined in this unit. The creative work may be a song, instrumental composition or soundscape. The length of the musical work will depend on

your individual project. A written reflection on process that details the sounds, form/structure of the work, and the factors that influenced the creation of the work needs to be submitted.

2. The analysis should begin with a detailed description of the sounds as well as the form/structure of the work. Thereafter, the analysis should explore the historical, creative, technological, and/or social factors that influenced the creation of the work/event.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate an historical knowledge of the seminal moments in contemporary music practice.
- evaluate critically the way changes in musical practice reflect broader changes within society.
- analyse the way technological developments affect musical practice.
- synthesise and communicate independent judgement in musical experimentation.
- utilise historical models to assess and/or create musical works.

¹ If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Delivery

There is one lecture (face to face) and one tutorial (face to face) per week. Lectures begin in Week 1. Tutorials begin in Week 2.

Feedback

Feedback in this unit is available in multiple forms: informal feedback in lectures and tutorials; face-to-face consultations; formal general comment, rubric, and/or in-text comments attached to assignments marked in Turnitin.

Class Times

All lecture and tutorial times, as well as classrooms, are available on the MQ Timetables website: timetables.mq.edu.au

Unit Schedule

Topic schedule will be available on iLearn.

Late Submissions

Please see the section below: "Late Assessment Policy."

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Late Assessment Policy

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.