



# MMCC2033

## Music Production: Audio Recording and Mixing

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

*Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*

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#### Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

#### Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Mary Mainsbridge

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Convenor

Julian Knowles

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above including (MUS 202 or MMCC2020)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores the audio-recording and mixing functions of music production. Acoustic recording practices, the virtual mixing desk, plug-ins, effects, and hardware peripherals are introduced. Conceptual and practical issues regarding audio production and recording are covered through lectures and hands-on tutorials. This unit is taught within specialized Music laboratories fully equipped with individual digital audio workstations, MIDI keyboards, microphones, mixers, and a range of recording and production software and hardware. Students will produce original audio works using music production software.

## Important Academic Dates

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

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

**ULO1:** evaluate discipline-specific technical knowledge of digital audio editing and recording.

**ULO2:** analyse and explain sound and creative works, showing critical, analytical and integrative thinking.

**ULO3:** demonstrate independent research skills, organisational abilities, and an ability to problem-solve technical and creative issues.

**ULO4:** formulate audio compositions in music software platforms, demonstrating musical creativity and originality.

**ULO5:** appraise and effectively communicate self-reflection of the creative process through writing.

**ULO6:** recognise issues of ethics and copyright in contemporary music production.

## General Assessment Information

### Assessment standards

Assessment standards in this unit align with the University's grade descriptors, available at: <http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment>

### Late submission / Special Consideration

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved:

1. 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
2. no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (including weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests, online participation.

### Feedback

Feedback on assessments and student learning and performance will be provided in written or verbal form. Students will receive formal individual feedback on their performance in assessments as general comments during class discussions and in-text comments attached to assignments marked in Grademark/Turnitin. Feedback may also be delivered verbally in tutorials, via email communication and in personal consultations on request. Marks are made available in the Gradebook function in iLearn.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                      | Weighting | Hurdle | Due     |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|
| <a href="#">Project 1</a> | 30%       | No     | Week 7  |
| <a href="#">Project 2</a> | 40%       | No     | Week 12 |
| <a href="#">Blog</a>      | 30%       | No     | Week 13 |

## Project 1

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 30 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will produce an original musical work (2-4 minutes) in the style of their choice. This project should demonstrate an ability to creatively work with audio files, resulting in a coherent musical composition. The project should incorporate production techniques discussed in lectures, including both sampling and recording. Projects will be accompanied by documentation including a project summary and audio/copyright information. All audio material used must be of copyright-permitted or of Creative Commons origins and all collaborators must be acknowledged in the project documentation.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate discipline-specific technical knowledge of digital audio editing and recording.
- demonstrate independent research skills, organisational abilities, and an ability to problem-solve technical and creative issues.
- formulate audio compositions in music software platforms, demonstrating musical creativity and originality.
- appraise and effectively communicate self-reflection of the creative process through writing.
- recognise issues of ethics and copyright in contemporary music production.

## Project 2

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 42 hours

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **40%**

Building on tutor and peer feedback and skills developed in the previous assessment, as well as new course concepts introduced in the second half of the unit, students will produce an original musical work (3-6 minutes). This project should demonstrate an ability to creatively work with audio files and recording, resulting in a coherent musical composition. The project should incorporate advanced production techniques discussed in the unit. All audio material used must be of copyright-permitted or of Creative Commons origins. Projects will be presented to class. The final mix is to be exported from the project as a stereo wave file and uploaded to a music streaming service such as Soundcloud. Projects will be accompanied by documentation including a project summary and audio/copyright information and a link to the audio file online.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- evaluate discipline-specific technical knowledge of digital audio editing and recording.
- demonstrate independent research skills, organisational abilities, and an ability to problem-solve technical and creative issues.
- formulate audio compositions in music software platforms, demonstrating musical creativity and originality.
- appraise and effectively communicate self-reflection of the creative process through writing.
- recognise issues of ethics and copyright in contemporary music production.

## Blog

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 30 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will document recording and production processes online, accompanied by independent research, examples of critical listening and analysis of relevant artists' works.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- analyse and explain sound and creative works, showing critical, analytical and integrative thinking.
- demonstrate independent research skills, organisational abilities, and an ability to problem-solve technical and creative issues.
- appraise and effectively communicate self-reflection of the creative process through writing.
- recognise issues of ethics and copyright in contemporary music production.

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<sup>1</sup> If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> 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

Lectures (delivered via iLearn) begin in Week 1. Tutorials begin in Week 2.

## 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

## Student Services and 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.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](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.