



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

MA

Music Industry Studies

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

12 months

Apply by: **28 August 2026**

Starts on: **21 September 2026**

Applications for master's courses beginning in September 2025 have now closed

Applications for September 2026 will open early October 2025. You can apply for courses starting in January 2026 now.

[Explore courses starting in January](#)

About this course

You will gain an advanced and discerning knowledge of music industry practices on this course. With the experience of our tutors and our international research, you will be introduced to practices within the music industry from understanding music publishing contracts to interpreting audiences and the global market.

Introduction

Through both face to face and online lectures and performances, you will investigate current music industry practices in-depth.

In attending our research seminars, you will meet and learn from expert guest speakers belonging to a multitude of music industry disciplines.

You'll receive comprehensive guidance in events management at our state of the art Tung Auditorium. You will achieve this by being closely involved in concerts performed by professional musicians from around the world as well as our internal programme of events featuring University of Liverpool students.

You will learn about management practices within the music industry, enabling you to understand the dynamics of managing artists as products.

Who is this course for?

This MA is suitable for you if you have a keen interest in pursuing a career in the fields of music management, events management and the music industry.

What you'll learn

- How to identify key legal principles of legislation related to music business.
- How to interpret the music economy.
- How to examine the ways music is promoted globally.
- Fundamental concepts of music management.
- How to market music towards different audiences around the world.
- Key skills in events management.
- Effective communication and teamwork skills.
- To develop and practice research skills in order to produce a significant piece of research in the music industry.

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

Please note: programme and module details are illustrative and subject to change.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>MARKETING LIVE MUSIC (MUSI540)</u>	15
<u>MUSIC INDUSTRY (MUSI526)</u>	30
<u>RESEARCHING THE MUSIC INDUSTRY (MUSI510)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>MUSIC COPYRIGHT AND CONTRACTS (MUSI516)</u>	15
<u>MUSIC INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT (MUSI522)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>ASIAN MUSIC MARKETS (MUSI546)</u>	15
<u>GLOBALISATION AND THE MUSIC INDUSTRY (MUSI520)</u>	15
<u>WORK PLACEMENT (MUSI542)</u>	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (MUSI524)</u>	60

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Teaching on the Music Industry Studies MA is primarily through interactive lectures where you will explore theories and real-world case studies from the music sector. There is the option of carrying out a work placement with a local arts organisation so that you can graduate with hands-on work experience. There are three modules per semester which typically means seven hours of class per week.

How you're assessed

You will primarily be assessed through coursework. This will be a combination of essays, portfolios and presentations throughout semesters one and two.

You will then complete a dissertation in semester three, using the research skills gained throughout the academic year.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

The MA is very much industry-focused. Members of staff for the most part have wide-ranging music industry experience and are able to draw on this in the preparation of classes. Familiarity with local and national practitioners means that classes are current and highly-informed.

All this noted, the MA is still an academic degree in a Russell Group university and staff academic standards are equally high. All members of staff hold PhD qualifications in relevant disciplines and all are experienced PhD supervisors. Every year, a small number of graduates indicate that they would like to carry on their studies at PhD level and we see 'employability' as preparation either for industry or for academia and support students, whatever their proposed career paths might be.

The course opens up career opportunities which include working in:

- Music management
- Events management
- Music composition and Music technology
- Teaching
- Media and Journalism.

You will also have a strong foundation upon which to study a PhD.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £11,700

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £24,100

Fees stated are for the 2025/26 academic year. Tuition fees for the academic year 2026/27 will be announced soon.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree can be in any subject discipline.

Non-graduates with very extensive professional experience and/or other prior qualifications may also be considered. Mature students with non-traditional backgrounds, particularly if you have music industry experience, are encouraged to apply.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110. For academic year 2025/26 only, we will also accept the production, literacy, comprehension and conversation score set: 120 overall, with no component below 105.

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) – 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards – 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no	40 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
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component below 4.0

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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