

MMus

Music Performance and Education

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

12 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

This programme provides you with the skills and experience needed to progress your music performance to the next level. With support from professionals in the industry and the expert guidance of our lecturers, you will develop your craft as a prospective professional musician.

Introduction

Our MMus Music Performance and Education develops solo and ensemble performance, teaching, and research skills appropriate to performance.

Here at Liverpool you will learn in an interdisciplinary teaching and research environment and with a diverse and international student community.

With dedicated small group and one-on-one teaching, the department offers a vibrant and active performance environment, and opportunities to develop connections with local and national music institutions.

You will have access to excellent studio and practice facilities and will perform in the Tung Auditorium (opened 2022) a cutting edge 400-seat, acoustically-optimised music performance space that has two top-of-the-range Steinways.

What you'll learn

- You will develop key performance skills in both a solo and ensemble capacity, enabling you to improve your musicianship and confidence in concert or gig environments.
- You will learn music teaching techniques and professional practice to help equip you with skills that you need to move forward in a career teaching music, and have the option to undertake a short placement experience.
- You'll learn how to engage with and effectively produce research related to performance, with a view to developing as a distinctive, enquiring practitioner.
- You will learn how to prepare professionally and will have opportunities to perform with members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra or professional jazz performers for performance assessments.
- Teaching will adapt to your specialism, so whether you are a classical or jazz musician, you will have opportunities to undertake performance work beyond standard recitals.

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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.

The modules to which the individual instrumental lessons are attached are Performance 1, Performance 2 and Major Project (assuming the final recital option is taken). A professional accompanist is provided for all performance assessments. Students should complete the modules from Semesters 1 and 2 before taking the Major Project.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
PERFORMANCE 1 (MUMA611)	20
RESEARCH SKILLS (MUMA710)	20
RESEARCH PROJECT (MUMA721)	20

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

Semester two

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
MUSIC PERFORMANCE PEDAGOGY 1 (MUMA631)	20

Compulsory modules	Credits
MUSIC PERFORMANCE PEDAGOGY 2 (MUMA640)	20
PERFORMANCE 2 (MUMA621)	20

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

Final project

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
MAJOR PROJECT (MUMA601)	60

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

Teaching on the MMus in Music Performance is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars and tutorials held on campus, as well as 20 hours of 1–1 specialist instrumental/vocal tuition. There are also opportunities for students to participate in masterclass workshops and perform with members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (RLPO). All students take all modules, which cover solo and ensemble performance, research, and pedagogy; concluding with a major project which can specialise or combine these areas. Class sizes are typically between 10–15 students.

How you're assessed

Students on the MMus are assessed through a combination of formative and summative coursework. This takes a number of different forms, including research portfolios, reflective and research essays, presentations, and performances (both solo and ensemble).

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching – learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning – taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment – assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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Careers and employability

The MMus in Music Performance and Education develops key skills to those working or wishing to work in a variety of fields related to music. The MMus is particularly suitable for graduates looking to pursue careers in the arts, specifically relating to music performance and research, as well as teaching.

The MMus is designed to prepare you for a portfolio career as a musician, combining teaching and performance, alongside other avenues of the music industry. Equally, you may want to take this course for your personal development and the revitalisation of subject awareness or to provide a stepping stone towards a PhD in a performance-related area.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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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 – £12,500

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £28,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

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 £12,858 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 should be in Music, alone or jointly with another subject. Conservatoire diplomas, particularly from EU and International applicants, may be acceptable in lieu of first degrees.

An interview usually forms part of the selection process.

We look at the individual qualities of applicants and encourage applications from those with first degrees obtained from music conservatories and mature students with non-traditional backgrounds.

You will be required to submit evidence of your performance skills. This should take the form of a video where you are performing classical or jazz music for 15–20 minutes. Please include a link to the performance demo in your supporting statement.

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

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. 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 writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 4.5	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

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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