

AQA

MUSIC



BEVERLEY
SIXTH



YEAR 12 - AS LEVEL 2012

Specification at a glance

AS Examination

Unit 1- Influences on Music

Written Examination: Influences on Music

1¾ hours 30% of the total AS marks

15% of the total A Level marks

Two Areas of Study (AoS) from:

AoS1 The Western Classical Tradition (compulsory)

[Set work: MOZART, Symphony No. 41 in C, K.551, 1st and 3rd movements.]

AoS2a Choral Music in the Baroque Period OR

AoS2c British Popular Music from 1960-the present day.

Candidates are given structured questions using a CD of musical excerpts. Candidates then answer two essay questions, one question from a choice of two based on the set work from the compulsory AoS and one question from a choice of two based on a second AoS.

Unit 2 – MUSC2

Composing: Creating Musical Ideas Externally Assessed

Coursework 60 marks 30% of the total AS Marks

15% of the total A-level marks

Candidates respond to one brief from a choice of three.

Briefs will be released to candidates on 1 November in the examination year.

Brief A Compositional techniques – EXAM - Q1 Harmonisation of a 16 bar melody and Q2 Controlling Texture (melodic writing and use of counterpoint)

Brief B Free composition or pastiche in response to a given genre

Brief C Arranging.

The briefs will be released on 1 November in the examination year and will be externally assessed by AQA. Candidates should be offered a maximum of 20 hours supervised.

Unit 3 – MUSC3

Performing: Interpreting Musical Ideas Internally Assessed

10 – 16 minutes 80 marks 40% of the total AS marks

20% of the total A-level marks

Candidates offer two performances (each 5-8 minutes) from a choice of six, including opportunities for using music technology. Technology 1: Sequencing & Technology 2: multi-track/close microphone recording

Career Opportunities: Entrance to University or Music College. There are employment opportunities for musicians in the Media, the Recording Industry, Music Therapy, the Retail Trade, Musical Instrument Technology and, of course Teaching and Performing.

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YEAR 13 - A2 LEVEL

Specification at a glance

A2 Examination

Unit 4 – MUSC4

Written Examination: Music in Context

*2¼ hours 100 marks **20% of the total A-level marks***

Candidates are given structured questions using a CD of excerpts. Candidates then answer two essay questions, one question from a choice of two based on the set works from the compulsory AoS and one question from a choice of two based on a new AoS.

AoS1 The Western Classical Tradition (compulsory)

[Set works 2009: Mahler – Symphony No. 4 in G major

AoS3a English Choral Music in the 20th century OR

AoS3b Chamber Music from Mendelssohn to Debussy OR

AoS3c Four decades of Jazz and Blues 1910-1950.

Unit 5 – MUSC5

Composing: Developing Musical Ideas Externally Assessed

*Coursework 60 marks **15% of the total A-level marks***

Candidates respond to one brief from a choice of three.

Brief A: Compositional techniques – EXAM - Q1 Harmonisation of a Bach chorale melody and Q2 The Classical String Quartet

Brief B: Free Composition or pastiche

Brief C: Arranging

Briefs will be released to candidates on 1 November in the examination year.

Unit 6 – MUSC6

Performing: A Musical Performance Externally Assessed

*15 minutes 60 marks **15% of the total A-level marks***

Candidates will offer two (or more) contrasting pieces to form a short programme, as a soloist or using music technology or a combination of these.

Career Opportunities:

Entrance to University or Music College. There are employment opportunities for musicians in the Media, the Recording Industry, Performing Arts Management, Music Therapy, the Retail Trade, Musical Instrument Technology and, of course Teaching and Performing.