Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008398	**Version:** 1 **Date Amended:** 27/Jul/2021

1. Module Title
Mixing and Mastering

2a. Module Leader
Richard Edwards

2b. School
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
5

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions

Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Electronic Music Production		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module will build on the knowledge and skills you gained in year one modules.

You'll learn how to use advanced high-quality processors to produce recordings of the very best possible sound quality. You'll be encouraged to move beyond the native mixers / processors / plugins that are integral parts of the commercial DAW packages, used in year one, and learn how to use higher quality external processors, both analogue and digital, such as DSP-based plugins and analogue outboard. You'll carry out some simple prescribed experiments on hardware and software devices to investigate things such as noise floor, harmonic distortion and intermodulation distortion, as well as advanced use of delays and reverberation effects to create a convincing sense of space and depth in recordings.

These wide ranging practical exercises will acquaint you fully with the features, properties and applications of these complex devices, leading you to an appreciation of their limitations as well as their great value in processing sound recordings.

Your lectures will focus on critical listening, where you'll begin to appreciate the value of advanced processors, recording and mixing tools and techniques needed for a very high-quality production, and experiment design to effectively carry out quantitative and qualitative analysis of specific devices and processors.

6b. Outline Content

· Critical listening, appreciation of quality.

· Advanced recording and mixing processes.

· Processors, high quality analogue devices and high quality DSP-based devices.

· Experiment design for quantitative and qualitative analysis

· Creation of space and depth in sound recordings

· Mastering

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Studio facilities, appropriate hardware and software.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	**Type**	**On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:**
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand the properties and operation of analogue and digital mixers.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Appreciate how external devices are used in combination with mixers.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Perform processing techniques to enhance audio recordings.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Make recordings using analogue and digital mixers and appreciate the advantages of each technique.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	**Hours**	**Learning Outcomes**	**Details of Duration, frequency and other comments**
Lectures	48	1-3	Weekly 2-hour lecture.
Other teacher managed learning	20	1-3	Weekly 1-hour tutorial in teaching weeks 3-10 in both trimesters.
Student managed learning	232	1-4	About 10 hours per week.
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	30 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

First logbook of practical exercises (3000 words equivalent) to record the details and the student's analysis of the studio experiments

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	1-4	30 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Second logbook of practical exercises (3000 words equivalent) to record the details and the student's analysis of the studio experiments

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
012	Practical	1-4	40 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Individual presentation: 30 minutes (4000 word equivalent)

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]