



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Careers in Music: using your music degree

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Overview

Careers in Music

- ▶ Why Music? (who has not listened to music today?)
- ▶ Employment Opportunities: Quality and Quantity
- ▶ Traditional routes:
 - ▶ GCSE to A level (and equiv) - school, FE, changing nature of qualifications
 - ▶ External practical qualifications including ABRSM, Trinity, Rock School
 - ▶ University undergraduate - what it means to do a music degree
 - ▶ Colleges - what are the differences
 - ▶ Postgraduate and study abroad
- ▶ Work experience

What kind of music at degree level?

- ▶ What is the difference between music at institution X and music at institution Y and how do I compare courses?
- ▶ Music and another subject (dual or combined honours)
- ▶ Music with specific path: eg. Music Technology

What does an undergraduate programme look like



The University of Sheffield Department of Music

- ▶ Research led reflecting staff specialisms in: Composition, Ethnomusicology, Musicology, Music Technology, Performance, Psychology of Music. Trickle down from research publication to lecture theatre.
- ▶ Undergraduate programme BMus single honours and BA dual honours
- ▶ Level 1: training
 - ▶ History of Western Music (20), Intro to Studio (10), Popular Music Studies (10), Musicianship 1 (10), Composition (10)
 - ▶ Music of the World (20), Studio Composition (10), Sound and Science (10), Musicianship II (10), Performance (10)
- ▶ Level 2: specialism and pathway definition with modular structure. Six modules each worth 20 credits
- ▶ Level 3: Composition, Performance, Dissertation, Sound Recording Portfolio, plus additional modules
- ▶ Instrumental lessons

Employment Opportunities

▶ Performing

- ▶ Performing already at school (conservatories, academies)
- ▶ Two Sheffield examples: Elizabeth Watts. Mary-Jess Leaverland
- ▶ University of Sheffield / Sheffield Cathedral scholarships. Organ scholarships
- ▶ What instrument can be principal study at University? Normally Western Classical including drums, guitars
- ▶ Conducting?
- ▶ Solo, chamber, session, orchestral, popular, classical

Employment Opportunities

▶ Composing

- ▶ You may well have compositions performed already. Record them
- ▶ Self publish via social networks or profile pages such as <http://soundandmusic.org/>
- ▶ Self perform either as band or cooperative
- ▶ Consider composing for film and be prepared to network. Jobs will never come to you otherwise
- ▶ Consider contemporary music / niche markets
- ▶ Protect your work and earn royalties www.prsformusic.com

Employment Opportunities

- ▶ Education and Teaching
 - ▶ Private Instrumental. Consider certification (diploma). Advertise and don't forget your CRB
 - ▶ School. PGCE or PGCE with work experience
 - ▶ Music Services
 - ▶ FE / HE
 - ▶ Freelance animateur / education assistant with arts organisation

Employment Opportunities

- ▶ Copying and Publishing
 - ▶ Learn Sibelius but think outside the box. Use a variety of tools (lilypond)
 - ▶ Make sure you can write music by hand
 - ▶ Have an intimate knowledge of the rudiments of music theory

Employment Opportunities

- ▶ Music Therapy

- ▶ Additional training often required (Guildhall, Roehampton, Nordoff-Robbins)
- ▶ Organisations and charities. Example: Lost Chord
<http://www.lost-chord.org.uk/>
- ▶ Increasingly popular choice for Extended Project. TUoS Music has access to Music Therapy via Music Psychology. Dissertations (15K words) often include case studies. Students learn about ethical implications of research

Employment Opportunities

- ▶ Arts Organisations

- ▶ Case Study: Music in the Round

- www.musicintheround.co.uk. Very close ties with the University of Sheffield.

- ▶ TUoS undergraduate module in Arts Administration

- ▶ EP or Dissertation is often in the form of a fictional (or real) business plan for an arts organisation

- ▶ TUoS postgraduate MA in Music and Management (jointly with the management school)

Employment Opportunities

▶ Broadcasting

- ▶ Know your technology. Music is useful but some evidence of journalism maybe required
- ▶ Radio: Hospital, University, School
- ▶ Internet broadcasts, podcasts, from essay to podcast (but beware copyright)
- ▶ Studio managers to producers to presenters. Example: Sarah Mohr-Pietsch, Presenter Radio 3
www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQL6QL20dro

Employment Opportunities

- ▶ Press and criticism

- ▶ musiccritic.org
- ▶ musicalcriticism.com
- ▶ Music magazines to Compact Disc liner notes
- ▶ You are writing about music, recordings, performances and performers. There are links to journalism and music theory. A great deal will be based upon your experience so start building experiences and (potentially) sharing them (Blog?)

Employment Opportunities



▶ Music Technology

- ▶ www.shef.ac.uk/usss
- ▶ Mechanical technology: instrument manufacture and repair, piano tuning
- ▶ Electronic technology: design, manufacture, sales and marketing for all brands and companies. Case Study: From 'Sound Designer' to 'Avid: Pro-Tools'
- ▶ Sound Recording. Case study (Graeme Atkinson at the vault studio Sheffield) www.thevaultstudio.co.uk
- ▶ The University of Sheffield Sound Studios www.shef.ac.uk/usss with programmes in Sonic Art is very well known for its use of *open source* technology. Software used includes: puredata, csound, supercollider, ardour, audacity. Audio programming as transferable skill.

But it is not all about training

Aspirations and desires do not lead to highly paid jobs

- ▶ Motivation (with evidence)
- ▶ Passion (with evidence)
- ▶ Experience (with evidence)

...but should lead to immense job satisfaction

Obstacles to progress include (to name but two)

- ▶ General downsizing in the arts
- ▶ File sharing ... take a moment to think about this

Where to get further information.

- ▶ The incorporated society of musicians www.ism.org
- ▶ The Musicians Union www.musiciansunion.org.uk
- ▶ University web pages
- ▶ School careers guidance
- ▶ Department of Work and Pensions
- ▶ Thinking about DIY or Entrepreneur?
 - ▶ www.businesslink.gov.uk
 - ▶ www.enterprise-zone.co.uk
- ▶ Friends, colleagues, social networks, gigs, shows
- ▶ You never know (that's the exciting part - though potentially troublesome)
- ▶ Whether it is 'Big Society' or 'Big Bucks', music changes lives!

Questions?



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Make music and make a career in music

Thank you

Adrian Moore

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