Template C4

Programme Specification

Title of Course: *BA (Hons) Audio Production top-up*

Date first produced	01/03/2021
Date last revised	17/06/2025
Date of implementation of current version	01/09/2025
Version number	11
Faculty	Kingston School of Art
Cross-disciplinary	
School	School of Arts
Department	Department of Performing Arts
Delivery Institution	Edinburgh College

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each modules can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s):	BA (Hons) Audio Production top-up
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	BA Audio Production
Course Code *For each pathway and mode of delivery*	UPAUP1AUP10 UFAUP1AUP10
UCAS code *For each pathway*	W374

Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	Edinburgh College
Location:	Edinburgh College
Language of Delivery:	English
Delivery mode:	Primarily campus based (up to 20% of scheduled L&T hours delivered online)
Learning mode(s):	Part-time Full-time
Minimum period of registration:	Part-time - 2 Full-time - 1
Maximum period of registration:	Part-time - 4 Full-time - 2
Entry requirements	Kingston University typically uses a range of entry requirements to assess an applicant's suitability for our courses. Most course requirements are based on UCAS Tariff points, usually stipulated as a range, and are sometimes coupled with minimum grades in specific relevant subjects. We may also use interview, portfolio and performance pieces to assess an applicant's suitability for the course. We recognise that every person's journey to Higher Education is different and unique and in some cases we may take into account work experience and other non-standard pathways onto University level study. Additionally, all non-UK applicants must meet our English language requirements.

	Please see our course pages on the Kingston University website for the most up to date entry requirements
Regulated by	The University and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students
Programme Accredited by:	N/A
Approved Variants:	Not Applicable
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	No

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

- To equip students with a broad range of key and transferable skills that will enable them to take up further study or work in a wide range of music based and related fields.
- To encourage students to develop their creative practise by equipping them with a broad range of knowledge and skills in audio production, including computer audio systems, modern recording practices and sound synthesis.
- To develop the audio production skills necessary for employment in the contemporary world of music through practical application, flexibility, successful collaboration, imagination, and creativity.
- To embed a range of voices in the learning and teaching activities within the course and to allow spaces for LGBTQ+, ethnic minorities and students who are differently abled to engage fully in the course
- To enable students to undertake creative work both individually and as a member of a team, to evaluate and refine their work and to demonstrate professionalism in its presentation.
- To enhance and develop students' skills in writing and thinking critically about related and unfamiliar subjects.
- To develop students' knowledge and understanding of the ways in which social, political, cultural, and historical contexts affect audio production practices.
- To equip students with the skills and knowledge they need to research modern audio production practices, and to introduce them to current issues
- To develop students' intellectual, imaginative, and creative powers; their understanding and judgement; their problem-solving skills; their ability to communicate and their ability to perceive audio production practices within a broad intellectual context.

B. Programme Learning Outcomes

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They have been aligned to the levels set out in 'Sector Recognised Standards in England' (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes

	Knowledge and Understanding On completion of the course students will be able to:		Intellectual Skills On completion of the course students will be able to		Subject Practical Skills On completion of the course students will be able to
A1	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and critical understanding of modern audio production practices, their intrinsic and distinctive qualities and judge how these qualities relate to their socio-cultural conventions.	B1	Critically evaluate relationships between practice and theory in audio production as applicable to the devising creation, manipulation, and dissemination of musical and creative artefacts.	C3	Collaborate effectively in the use of audio production practices within music making, whether through ensemble performance facilitation, co-creation, organisational creativity, improvisatory work, or analogous activities.
A2	Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of technological and musical contexts and interconnectivity, including the relationship of music to historical, philosophical, cultural, and social practices and phenomena and other arts disciplines.	B2	Analyse and interrogate audio production artefacts and materials and to communicate the findings in a considered, coherent and relevant form.	C1	Convey personal expression and imagination in practical audio production techniques and concepts through employing appropriate technical and interpretative means, with innovative practice and to a high standard of technical and musical accomplishment.
A3	Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of processes: theoretical, texts, resources, concepts in audio production and related music disciplines and how they sit in a contemporary context.	B3	Critically evaluate and compare sources of information for research of audio production practices and of research methodologies appropriate to a variety of music related topics and to organise and present	C2	Consider, explore and apply essential components of audio production practices, in a variety of forms through re-creation, adaptation and/or elaboration in a variety of settings.

| | | | these in an effective and meaningful manner. | | |
| | | B4 | Critically reflect on their own and other's practices and to engage with this reflection in a considered and meaningful way. | | |

C. Future Skills Graduate Attributes

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will engage students in developing their Future Skills Graduate Attributes:
1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

D. Outline Programme Structure

This top-up degree programme is offered in full-time and part-time modes and leads to the award of BA (Hons) Audio Production. The BA (Hons) Audio Production is made up of two 30-credit and one 60-credit module. Full details of each module will be provided in module descriptors and student module guides. A student must complete 240 credits over the two-year HND. This part of the course constitutes the entry requirements to the Level 6 top-up degree. All students will be provided with the University's Undergraduate regulations and the Course Handbook. Intake is normally in September.
Progression to level 6 requires a B grade for the second year HND graded unit and a successful interview.

BA (Hons) Audio Production top-up

Level 6							
BA (Hons) Audio Production top-up							
Core modules	**Module code**	**Credit Value**	**Level**	**Teaching Block**	**Pre-requisites**	**Full Time**	**Part Time**
Commercial Music Production	MU6401	30	6	Year Long	None	1	1
Interactive and Reactive Audio	MU6402	30	6	Year Long	None	1	1
Professional Project: Audio Production	MU6403	60	6	Year Long	None	1	2

Exit Awards at Level 6

Students exiting the programme without completing the full 120 credits but have successfully completed 60 credits at level 6 or above are eligible for the award of an Ordinary Degree.

E. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Edinburgh College is committed to equality of opportunity and to a culture that respects difference. It is committed to providing an inclusive ethos and environment, where everyone feels welcome, supported, and respected. The College recognises that equality of access to education is crucial in unlocking many significant opportunities in life. It aims to help remove barriers and advance equality for groups who experience disadvantage in society. The College collaborates with community partners to ensure sufficient provision is made available to those in the region most at risk of not achieving a positive outcome. Edinburgh College strives to widen access and increase participation from the most deprived areas in the region and endeavours to enhance social mobility by engaging with the hardest to reach communities. The College wants to ensure that all its students feel respected and have an equal opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Edinburgh College aims to create an inclusive curriculum. The following are specific examples:

- The Student handbook contains a clear statement related to inclusive course values.
- The college uses a variety of delivery and assessment methods to accommodate different learning styles. Teaching methods are varied. This includes the use of the VLE (Moodle) practical and written work.
- Students can see themselves and their backgrounds reflected in the work they do as part of their individual projects and in collaborative work. They have freedom to explore this and there are spaces for all ableisms and gender and ethnic identities in all courses.
- Through the interaction of the three co-related degrees (BA Audio Production, BA Music, and BA Music Business) and across the wider college at all levels of study, there are embedded opportunities for cross-cultural interaction to help students recognise the value of working with people from diverse backgrounds.
- A range of speakers deliver seminars where students are exposed to culturally challenging views, opinions, and contexts.
- Students are included in the design and review of the curriculum through student assemblies, the student rep system, and surveys.
- Staff engage in regular and continuous professional development on equality and diversity, which is embedded in our compulsory training.
- Through peer review, reflection and the practical application of theoretical knowledge, students are being equipped to work in a global and diverse world.
- The student voice (current and alumni) has been a key part of the development of this degree and the other two co-related music awards. (BA Music and BA Music Business).

Learning in audio production entails the acquisition and utilisation of knowledge and the development of powers of analysis and criticism; students use the books, journals, audio/visual and electronic resources provided in the College's Learning Resources Centre. E-resources and computer software packages aid students' individual study of relevant audio production skills. The College's online virtual learning environment,

Moodle, is used for provision of general module information, class notes, reading lists and web links. In some modules it plays a key role in module delivery by enabling virtual seminars as well as the dissemination of literature. Moodle also provides the opportunity to enhance learning through the use of interactive media such as interactive presentations, quizzes, surveys, schedulers and journals. Wikis and Glossaries provide ways of sharing good practice and research. In this programme, the Moodle workshop function will be utilised for sharing feedback on pitches. Glossaries and databases will allow students to share additional practical audio technology sources and the H5P interactive content and lesson function will enable students to work off-campus. These will be invaluable in encouraging critical reflection and independence.

Regular practice is essential for the development of skills in modern audio production techniques including recording skills and audio/visual production. Much of this practice is carried out on an individual basis, but students also work collaboratively to create material and products relevant to the current professional audio production industry. Peer feedback is used during the teaching of modern audio production skills and other creative activities and serves to deepen students' awareness of criteria used to make judgements of creative works as well as to sharpen their powers of critical listening and evaluation.

Large group lectures are used where the communication of concepts, ideas and knowledge is central; within these, use is often made of small-group tasks and plenaries. Workshops form the key mode of delivery for skills-based modules where, following staff exposition of a topic, students obtain experience and understanding through hands-on engagement with the technology, processes, and music in question. Students being recruited from outside Edinburgh College will be given additional induction activities to enable them to integrate into the progressing family of students.

At level 6, all students will take the 60-credit Professional Project which will allow students to demonstrate their specialist skills in, amongst others, recording techniques, audio post-production for film or video games, audio/visual installations. The project is taught in a variety of ways with lectures setting out the parameters and methodologies, small groups looking at subject specific topics and individual supervision and tutorials providing bespoke advice and support. This module is complemented by two further core modules of 30 credits each: 'Interactive and Reactive Audio' and 'Commercial Music Production'. These core modules have pathway choices built in to allow students to focus on their specialities while providing the necessary skills for this degree.

All students are encouraged to make use of the individual support for written work and the seminars on academic writing available in the Learning Centre (Edinburgh College Library), which is open throughout the week.

Students whose native language is not English are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the tuition provided by the college's English Language Support Programme. The required IELTS level is 6.5 in line with the partner institution, Kingston University. It is expected that progressing students who have been with the college for two years will have improved their standard of written and spoken English to the extent that they will be able to undergo the relevant language test. The student should be aware that the test is not funded or arranged by the college and that students will need to produce the relevant certificate before being enrolled on the course. Students are encouraged to undertake language development if necessary. The College's English as a Second Language department can advise: mailto:esol@edinburghcollege.ac.uk

External candidates planning to apply for this course, can also apply for English language courses at the college in preparation.

In Audio Production at level 6 most assessment is by coursework and practical exams. A wide range of methods is utilised for learning and assessment including essays, critical reviews, blogs, and folios of creative work. Assessments are designed to be inclusive. A strong feature of all modules is the use of a range of formative feedback techniques such as class discussion, peer review, in-class tests, "soft" assessments, and both written and verbal evaluation of work by staff. Through feedback and feedforward, students will have the opportunity to learn from errors and to gain confidence in their work before formal summative assessment takes place.

F. Support for Students and their Learning

Students are supported by:
- A Module Leader for each module
- A Curriculum Manager to help students understand the programme structure
- Personal Tutors to provide academic and personal support
- Technical support to advise students on IT, the use of software and the technical operation of the studios and to advise and support them in the creation of curricular and extra-curricular studio projects
- A designated programme administrator
- A Partner Liaison Officer to clarify the relationship between the college and the partner.
- An induction week at the beginning of each new academic session
- A Staff Student Consultative Committee
- Moodle – a versatile on-line interactive intranet and learning environment
- The Learning Centre that provides academic skills support
- Student services who provide advice on issues such as finance, regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support and a wellbeing team.
- Student support staff who support disabled students and those with special needs
- ECSA (Edinburgh College Student Association)
- Careers and Employability Service: CV drop ins, tutorials, sessions on maintaining a professional profile and the annual Employability Day (careers fayre)
- Academic and Pastoral support is provided by the personal tutor as part of the Professional Project module as well as Edinburgh College Student Support and Services. Part-time Students are assigned a personal tutor from year one.

G. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has several methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:
- External examiners
- Annual Monitoring and Enhancement
- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaire (MEQs) and Early Module Reviews (EMRs)

- Moderation policies
- Feedback from employers and stakeholders

H. External Reference Points

External reference points which have informed the design of the course. These include:
- QAA Subject benchmarks
- Other subject or industry standards

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where programme learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the **core** modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code		Level 1	Level 6			Level 30	Level 60
		MU6402	MU6403	MU6402	MU6401	MU6401	MU6403
Knowledge & Understanding	A1	S				S	S
	A2	S					S
	A3	S					S
Intellectual Skills	B1	S				S	S
	B2	S				S	S
	B3	S					S
	B4	S				S	S
Practical Skills	C3	S		S		S	S
	C1	S				S	S
	C2	S				S	S

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.

Additional Information