**Music**

* Do you play to a high standard?
* Do you want to learn more about music as an academic discipline?

St Andrews has courses that are designed to support you in continuing studies alongside modules designed to develop music appreciation skills.

**Facilities and resources**

The Department of Music draws on the expertise of instrumental and voice tutors associated with the University’s Music Centre, who contribute to teaching on our performance modules. The Music Centre also has a range of practice facilities, including practice rooms, instrument hire and an electronic music studio with Apple iMac computers with software and hardware available for the composition and realisation of music. For more details, including a list of current tutors and their areas of expertise, see the Music Centre webpages. In addition, students on our modules enjoy lectures and seminars from a range of outside visiting lecturers who draw on their professional experience in music performance and related fields to enhance the academic learning experience.

The University of St Andrews degree structure allows students to broaden their education, particularly at first and second year level. Within this structure, the Department of Music offers 1000- and 2000-level modules, and one limited-entry 3000-level module, to those of you who wish to develop your interests in music as part of your degree. Some of our modules are intended for students who have already acquired a high degree of competence in performance and/or reading musical notation, while others require no prior knowledge or expertise.

The 3000-level module in performance is designed to support students thinking about developing potential careers in music, normally through further study at music college or conservatoire; entrance to this module is limited to those who have passed both sub-honours performance modules with sufficiently high grades to allow progression (see www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue).

We are happy to accept students from all Faculties on all our music modules, regardless of what other subjects they are studying, though as with all modular choices, you will need to obtain the approval of your Adviser of Studies.

**Typical class sizes**

- **First Year:** lectures 30 - 40, tutorials 6 - 10
- **Second Year:** lectures 6 - 40, tutorials 1 - 10

**Indicative programme information**

**First Year**

*Understanding Music (A and B versions)*

These modules aim to develop skills and knowledge that will help you to get more out of the experience of listening to music. Focusing particularly on classical music, both modules include components on musical history, acoustics, aesthetics and the history of the orchestra, and examine key works from different genres and periods in particular detail. You are not required to perform as part of these modules. The two modules run in parallel, sharing lectures on music history and set works. Students on the more advanced module *Understanding Music A*, however, must have well-developed pre-existing skills in music literacy and analysis, to the equivalent of ABRSM theory grade 5 +. Students on *Understanding Music B* will be taught music notation and be introduced to a range of analytical concepts that will help them to discuss the set works precisely and accurately. For those unsure of their entry level, an initial diagnostic test in Week 1 will help us to place you in the strand most appropriate to your existing knowledge level.

*Making Music*

This module is designed for students who have already studied an instrument or singing and would like to continue making music at a high level while at university. It supports you in improving your performance skills while developing an understanding of the historical, analytical and aesthetic ideas related to musical performance. The module also offers the chance to study composition and to perform as part of an ensemble. You are required to present a short recital for examination and to complete related written work. Entry requires a playing/singing standard equivalent to ABRSM/Trinity College grade 8; students not holding a grade 8 certificate will need to be auditioned prior to entry to ensure their playing is of comparable standard.

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*Although my Honours intentions are not in music, I am taking academic music modules on offer at sub-honours level. I also have a busy musical life both with the University Symphony Orchestra and as Organ Scholar to the St Salvator’s Chapel Choir, with weekly services and regular concerts and tours.***

**George** (Richmond, North Yorkshire, England)
Advanced Performance
This module is a practical, year-long module aimed at students who wish to develop their playing to diploma level. The module’s primary focus is performance but you will also have the opportunity to consider relevant music in its historical context. Teaching consists of individual instrumental lessons, masterclasses and tutorials while assessment is based around the preparation and presentation of an instrumental recital.

Scottish Music
This module explores a wide range of music in Scotland, examining Highland and Lowland folk music and more recent pop music as well as classical music composed from the mediaeval era onwards. In doing so, it aims to build up an understanding of the relationship between Scottish music and the society in which it is produced. No prior knowledge of musical notation is necessary: this module is for all those interested in the rich and varied musical culture of Scotland.

Third Year
Concert Performance
This module caters for students aiming to perform to a professional level or students wishing to go on to study performance at postgraduate level. Teaching will include instrumental/vocal lessons at the University’s Music Centre, masterclasses with professional musicians and weekly performance classes. Alongside the primary focus of performance, students will also receive teaching in careers and enterprise skills to assist their entry into the music profession. The marking standards for this module are similar to a performance diploma such as LRSM (Licentiate of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music). The module may be especially attractive to a student wishing to put themselves forward for such a diploma.

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Reading Opera: Texts, Libretti and Music from Purcell to Stravinsky
This module examines a range of operas from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries, focusing on the transformations of meaning and structure that take place as text is turned into libretto, and as libretto is set to music. It will be of particular interest to students of English Literature, Modern Languages and Classics, but will appeal to all interested in the relationship between text, music and drama. Though the module will examine the operas in depth, no prior knowledge of musical notation or operatic history will be assumed.

Second Year
Electronic Music
This is a practical module offering you the opportunity to work in the Music Centre’s studio to create music from electronic sources. Accompanying lectures and seminars examine the history of electronic music, amplified music and computer music and look at works by significant composers and innovators who have worked in these genres, from Stockhausen to Jimi Hendrix. The module also offers tuition in music software packages such as Sibelius, Logic and Ableton Live. No prior experience in electronic music is necessary in order to take the module, but some knowledge of music notation or music theory is strongly advised.

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“As someone who hopes to go on to study music after graduating, taking modules and engaging in the wealth of musical opportunities that St Andrews has to offer has helped me develop as a musician. Since my first year, I have been a choral scholar of St Salvator’s Chapel and have participated in productions with Byre Opera, performing in venues across Scotland. I was also a Monteverdi Choir Apprentice under Sir John Eliot Gardiner in 2014-2015, and was kindly supported by all members of staff to pursue my ambitions.”

Angharad (Denbigh, Wales)