

KS5 Curriculum Map – A-level Music Technology (Edexcel)

Year 12	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2	
Topic	Introduction to recording and mixing Introduction to technology-based composition Introduction to the Component 3 exam Handling and mixing audio	Recording acoustic/bass guitar and intermediate mixing skills MIDI and synthesis essentials Analogue technology and vocal production Theoretical and practical tasks focusing on MIDI, dynamics and distortion	Exploring the mark scheme, recording percussion/keyboards and advanced mixing Exploring mark scheme criteria Detailed exploration of the question paper and focus on analogue synthesisers/electric instruments Detailed exploration of the question paper and specimen long-response questions	Practice brief sessions, mixing practice and mastering Practice brief sessions Comparing analogue and digital effects Specimen questions	Practice brief project and logbooks Final revision ahead of mock exams	Year 12 Mock Exam	Drum recording and preparing A-level brief Preparatory work towards A-level set brief Exploring differences between the AS- and A-level papers
Assessment	A short, practice composing task which focuses on the creation of sounds using synthesis techniques. Small-scale recording project	Written and practical tasks focus on more advanced processes Questions on MIDI/sequencing theory Essay on vocal production techniques and how these have developed through the various eras	Questions on theoretical knowledge and practical skills learned to date, including the manipulation of pitch, rhythm and frequency response. with a specific focus on longer-response questions and analogue/electric instruments. Analyse compositions produced by past students Mixing tasks will be set using material provided by the teacher, to included detailed corrective EQ, compression and gating. Percussion and keyboard recording workshops will complete taught content on tracking instruments.	Questions comparing a range of analogue and digital effects; production techniques from each of the eras Mixing workshops Analyse recordings produced by past students to help them understand the demands of the mark scheme criteria.	Refine and finish practice briefs Final revision activities		Drum-recording task Recording research project Composition sketches
Areas of Study	1: Recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes 2: Principles of sound and audio technology 3: The development of recording and production technology						

Year 13	Autumn 1		Autumn 2	Spring 1		Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Exploring the mark scheme, multiple mic techniques and preparing/starting the NEA set brief Advanced MIDI and sampling and preparing/starting the NEA set brief The impact of digital and sampling technology Advanced MIDI in practice	Year 13 Mock Exam 1	Exploring the mark scheme, multiple mic techniques and preparing/starting the NEA set brief Advanced MIDI and sampling and preparing/starting the NEA set brief The impact of digital and sampling technology Advanced MIDI in practice	Advanced audio editing, pitch/rhythm correction and continuing NEA brief Automating parameters and continuing NEA brief Identifying effects and their parameters Audio editing and manipulating advanced parameters with automation	Year 13 Mock Exam 2	Supervised NEA sessions with skills-based starter activities Supervised NEA sessions with skills-based starter activities Mixing, mastering and comparing production techniques Focus on essay questions and evaluating production scenarios	Moving towards completion with NEA brief and associated documentation Focus on exam technique and final revision	A level exams
Assessment	Marking recordings from past students Essay evaluating the impact of digital and sampling technology Written & practical tasks to verify knowledge of MIDI techniques and the manipulation of advanced plug-in parameters		Workshops on mixing, dynamic processing, EQ, time-based effects, acoustics Workshops on advanced synthesis and effect parameters including, automation, envelopes and filters Essays investigating the impact of analogue recording technology and associated effects through various eras	Detailed, corrective editing of audio files Questions on the identification of effects and their parameters within commercial recordings Practical tasks on audio editing and adjusting advanced parameters in plug-ins and automating these according to specific instructions		Completion of coursework Essays comparing and evaluating the production techniques heard in commercial recordings. Questions where pupils must describe and evaluate a range of recording and production scenarios.	Refine and finish coursework and logbooks Final revision activities	
Areas of Study	1: Recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes 2: Principles of sound and audio technology 3: The development of recording and production technology							

