



Tonmeister[®] course

University of Surrey

Why Surrey for the Tonmeister course?



The Tonmeister course is a unique combination of engineering, music and practice, particularly in terms of the rigour and depth that you will go into. We pride ourselves on:

- Fantastic standards of teaching
- Being awarded the highest rating in research
- Music course ranked 2nd by the Guardian University Guide 2020
- Having achieved 100 per cent overall satisfaction for this course in the National Student Survey 2019
- Strong performance culture
- Pluralist attitude to music
- Collaboration across the arts.

What you will study



Our course is made up of three areas of study:

- Technical understanding of audio
- Practical experience of recording
- Musical theory and practice.

The technical aspects of our course cover the engineering components that contribute to modern sound recording and reproduction. This includes:

- Acoustics
- Electroacoustics
- Electronics
- Computer audio systems
- Sound synthesis
- Signal processing.

The practical elements of your studies will provide you with tuition in recording techniques and critical listening. You'll also apply technical theory by recording a wide range of music.

The musical components of the course will develop your analytical skills and provide the opportunity for detailed study of creative disciplines such as performance and composition.



Tonmeister facilities at Surrey



Our facilities are of the highest professional standards and are unmatched in the UK university sector.

3 recording studios:

Studio one:

A studio floor large enough to record a full orchestra and choir

A control room containing a Studer Vista digital console

A Pyramix multi-channel recording and editing system and a range of analogue and digital recorders

Studio two:

A smaller studio floor which is less reverberant and a control room containing a 56-channel SSL 9000K series console

A 48-channel Pro Tools HDX system

A 48-track hard disk-based recorder

Studio three:

A small overdub booth and a control room containing an AMS Neve 88D digital console

Pro Tools HDX with 64 channel MADI I/O

Pyramix Native with 64 channel MADI I/O

A range of outboard including Bricasti M7 reverb

Surround sound monitoring

You'll also have access to five edit suites containing a range of analogue and digital recorders and digital audio workstations.

In addition to these facilities, you are able to use our extensive range of microphones, listening room, 2 labs including Apple Mac Pro workstations, mobile recording vans and an assortment of measurement and test equipment.





The engineering modules are taught mainly by academics who also conduct research into cutting-edge audio technology.

We have teaching fellows and associate tutors who work in industry that teach the practical recording topics.

We also have many visiting seminars and workshops given by industry luminaries who can give you up-to-date advice of how to get ahead in the industry:
<http://www.iosr.uk/staff/index.php>

Professional Training placements at Surrey



In your third year there's the possibility to work in industry for the year.

You'll gain valuable experience by working in a commercial company such as:

- A recording studio
- A broadcasting company
- An audio consultancy
- An audio manufacturer
- A computer games developer
- A post-production facility.

We will maintain contact with you through visits by Professional Training tutors. In recent years, students have obtained placements with leading audio industry employers such as:

- Air Studios
- Abbey Road Studios
- Sky Post Production
- BBC
- Bang & Olufsen
- DiGiCo
- Martin Audio
- Dolby Content Services
- Floating Earth.



What our graduates go on to do



- ▶ ▶ ▶ Our graduates have gone on to a wide range of careers, including:
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Audio engineering for pop music, classical music, film, post-production, mastering and broadcast
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Audio editing for film, television, radio, classical music and pop music
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Specification, installation, operation and maintenance of live sound systems for music and theatre
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Technical support for the recording industry – carrying out studio maintenance, equipment rental and technical installations
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Manufacture of all types of professional and consumer audio equipment – research and development, technical support, product management, marketing and sales
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Creative music roles, such as composition for film and television, freelance performing or sound design for computer games.

Recent graduates entered employment in roles such as:

- ▶ ▶ ▶ Assistant Engineer, Abbey Road Studios
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Assistant Engineer, Angel Studios
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Technical Assistant, CTV Outside Broadcasts
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Graduate Engineer, Hoare Lea
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Recording & Mastering Engineer, K&A Productions
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Studio Technician, Real World Studios
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Studio Manager, Royal Academy of Music
- ▶ ▶ ▶ Technical Co-ordinator, Ableton Loop.



“I enjoyed the collaborative feeling about the course as a whole. Class sizes are very small, so everyone ends up being friends with everyone and it also creates lots of opportunities to work in groups throughout the various coursework assignments. Everyone starts at roughly the same level of knowledge, and it’s fun figuring things out and experimenting with music together.”

Year 1 modules

Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) BSc (Hons)

YEAR 1 (WITH PTY) ▲		
Module title	Status	Semester
HARMONY 1	Compulsory	1
TOPIC STUDY 1A	Optional	2
MUSIC PROJECT 1B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 1B	Optional	2
PATHWAYS IN MUSICIANSHIP B: PERFORMANCE AND COMPOSITION	Optional	2
AUDIO SIGNAL ANALYSIS	Core	Year-long
COMPUTER SYSTEMS	Core	Year-long
ACOUSTICS & PSYCHOACOUSTICS	Core	Year-long
AUDIO ENGINEERING AND RECORDING TECHNIQUES 1	Core	Year-long
AUDIO ELECTRONICS 1	Core	Year-long
LISTENING & PRACTICAL SKILLS	Core	Year-long

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YEAR 1 (WITH PTY) ▲		
Module title	Status	Semester
HARMONY 1	Compulsory	1
TOPIC STUDY 1A	Optional	2
MUSIC PROJECT 1B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 1B	Optional	2
PATHWAYS IN MUSICIANSHIP B: PERFORMANCE AND COMPOSITION	Optional	2
AUDIO SIGNAL ANALYSIS	Core	Year-long
COMPUTER SYSTEMS	Core	Year-long
ACOUSTICS & PSYCHOACOUSTICS	Core	Year-long
AUDIO ENGINEERING AND RECORDING TECHNIQUES 1	Core	Year-long
AUDIO ELECTRONICS 1	Core	Year-long
LISTENING & PRACTICAL SKILLS	Core	Year-long

Year 2 modules

Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) BSc (Hons)

YEAR 2 (WITH PTY)		
Module title	Status	Semester
COMPOSITION 2A	Optional	1
COMPOSITION 2B	Optional	2
PERFORMANCE 2A	Optional	1
PERFORMANCE 2B	Optional	2
HARMONY 2	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 2A	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 2B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 2A	Optional	1
TOPIC STUDY 2B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 2C	Optional	2
AUDIO LABORATORY	Core	Year-long
ELECTROACOUSTICS	Core	Year-long
VIDEO ENGINEERING	Core	Year-long
RECORDING TECHNIQUES	Core	Year-long
PRODUCTION AND SCORE STUDIES	Optional	Year-long
TV STUDIO PRACTICE	Optional	Year-long
AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING & SYNTHESIS	Core	Year-long

Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) BMus (Hons)

YEAR 2 (WITH PTY)		
Module title	Status	Semester
COMPOSITION 2A	Optional	1
COMPOSITION 2B	Optional	2
PERFORMANCE 2A	Optional	1
PERFORMANCE 2B	Optional	2
HARMONY 2	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 2A	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 2B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 2A	Optional	1
TOPIC STUDY 2B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 2C	Optional	2
AUDIO LABORATORY	Core	Year-long
ELECTROACOUSTICS	Core	Year-long
VIDEO ENGINEERING	Core	Year-long
RECORDING TECHNIQUES	Core	Year-long
PRODUCTION AND SCORE STUDIES	Optional	Year-long
TV STUDIO PRACTICE	Optional	Year-long
AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING & SYNTHESIS	Core	Year-long

Year 3 modules

Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) BSc (Hons)

YEAR 3 (WITH PTY) ▲		
Module title	Status	Semester
COMPOSITION 3A	Optional	1
COMPOSITION 3B	Optional	2
PERFORMANCE 3A	Optional	1
PERFORMANCE 3B	Optional	2
MUSIC PROJECT 3A	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 3B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 3A	Optional	1
TOPIC STUDY 3B	Optional	2
AUDIO ENGINEERING 3	Optional	Year-long
PORTFOLIO OF RECORDINGS	Core	Year-long
TECHNICAL PROJECT	Core	Year-long
AUDIO PROGRAMMING	Optional	Year-long

Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) BMus (Hons)

YEAR 3 (WITH PTY) ▲		
Module title	Status	Semester
COMPOSITION 3A	Optional	1
COMPOSITION 3B	Optional	2
PERFORMANCE 3A	Optional	1
PERFORMANCE 3B	Optional	2
MUSIC PROJECT 3A	Optional	1
MUSIC PROJECT 3B	Optional	2
TOPIC STUDY 3A	Optional	1
TOPIC STUDY 3B	Optional	2
AUDIO ENGINEERING 3	Optional	Year-long
PORTFOLIO OF RECORDINGS	Core	Year-long
AUDIO PROGRAMMING	Optional	Year-long
DISSERTATION	Core	Year-long



Teaching

Our teaching is supported by expertise and years of industry experience. Researchers who conduct cutting-edge research into recording, synthesis, reproduction, and perception of sound teach the engineering aspects. The practical aspects of our course are led by practitioners who are experts in their fields while world-leading researchers, composers, and performers teach the musical aspects of this course.

Assessment

We assess modules individually and award credits for the successful completion of each one. Assessment takes place through a combination of examination and/or coursework, practical examinations and reports.

Check individual module information to see full details at a module level.

Entry requirements



▶▶▶ **A-level**
Overall: AAA.

Required subjects: Mathematics, Music, and Physics. Music Technology A-level together with ABRSM Music Theory grade 5 is acceptable in place of Music A-level. Musical performance proficiency equivalent to ABRSM Grade 7 is desirable.

Applicants taking an A-level science subject with the Science Practical Endorsement are required to pass the practical element.

Please note: A-level General Studies and A-level Critical Thinking are not accepted.

GCSE or equivalent: English Language at Grade C(4) and Mathematics at Grade C (4) (or equivalent).

▶▶▶ **BTEC (QCF Level 3) Extended Diploma**
Overall: D*DD.

Required subjects: Please contact us to discuss suitability.

GCSE or equivalent: English Language at Grade C(4) and Mathematics at Grade C (4) (or equivalent).

▶▶▶ **International Baccalaureate**
Overall: 35.

Required subjects: Mathematics HL6/SL7, Music HL6/SL7 and Physics HL6/SL7.

GCSE or equivalent: English HL/SL4.

For further international qualifications, please visit:

<https://www.surrey.ac.uk/undergraduate/music-and-sound-recording-tonmeister>¹³

Enjoying your free time



- ▶▶▶ Over 100 clubs and societies from archery to Zumba, ballroom dancing, Biz Soc, pet society, film society, gospel choir, Harry Potter, jazz orchestra, sailing and volleyball
- ▶▶▶ Discounted membership at Surrey Sports Park
- ▶▶▶ Events and activities organised by Students' Union
- ▶▶▶ 34 minute train into central London.





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