

Programme Specification:

BTEC Higher National Diploma in Music (Technology / Sound Engineering)

Course Name	Higher National Diploma in Music (Technology / Sound engineering) BTEC 603/2274/3
Course Location	Higher Rhythm HQ, Nether Hall Road, Doncaster.
Organisation Address	Higher Rhythm Ltd 53 - 57 Nether Hall Road, Doncaster, DN1 2PG
Level	Level 4 (Year 1) and 5 (Year 2)
Start Date	September 2021
Duration	2 years
Mode of Study	Full Time
Awarding Body	Pearson
Date Programme Specification last updated/approved	First Approved: August 2018 Updated: December 2020 Updated: May 2021
Date Programme Specification to be revised	December 2021
Key contacts	Administration Office: mail@higherrhythm.co.uk Course Leader, Daniel Whitehouse danwhitehouse@higherrhythm.co.uk Telephone: 01302 327769

Programme Design and Overview

What sets this course apart from other similar level courses in the same subject area, is the real music industry environment students study in and the wider industry networks which they will be regularly exposed to. Higher Rhythm boasts a vast music industry network, locally, regionally and nationally. We partner with bodies such as the PRS Foundation as a talent development partner, delivering regional music artist and enterprise development programmes supported by Help Musicians UK and Arts Council England, and running other Music industry initiatives such as Music Industry Yorkshire (the Yorkshire region's Music Industry Development Network) Sine FM (the only licensed radio station in Doncaster) Circuit Records, Higher Rhythm's in-house independent record label, as well as two, multi-room, industry level recording studios.

The aim of The Higher Rhythm Higher National Diploma in Music Technology / Sound Engineering, is to develop students as professionally competent, highly-skilled individuals who can meet the demands of employers in the ever-changing world of the music industry and wider creative sectors. The course is aimed at students wanting to continue their education through applied learning. All graduating students will have well-rounded skills and experience gained from studying in a real industry setting, adequately prepared for employment or furthering their education and giving them the depth of knowledge and experience to excel as music industry professionals.

Course Content

The following units will be studied (subject to change)

Year 1(Level 4) Higher National Certificate in Music: Technology

The Music Industry
Marketing and Promotion
Professional Development
Applied Sound Principles
Live Sound Techniques
Recording Technology
Creative Software Techniques
Sound Engineering Fundamentals

Year 2 (Level 5) Higher National Certificate in Music: Sound Engineering

Creative Research Project
Advanced Sound Engineering
Advanced Music Production
Mixing and Mastering
Creative Portfolio
Live Mixing
Advanced Sound Design for Interactive Media

Programme Structure

The Higher National Diploma (HND) is a Level 4 and Level 5 qualification made up of 240 credits, studied full-time over two years. Students undertaking an HND who fail to successfully complete the full qualification may be awarded an HNC, if their credit achievement permits. BTEC Higher Nationals consist of core units, specialist units and optional units. Specialist units are designed to provide a specific occupational focus to the qualification and are aligned to professional body standards.

Delivery Methods

This course will be delivered through practical classes, set in a music industry professional environment, where students will develop a wide range of techniques using high-end studio equipment. Other teaching methods include formal lectures, seminars, tutorials and reflective practice. We have also developed a bespoke online learning platform to sit alongside our existing Virtual Learning Environment, which students can access, providing a blended approach to teaching and learning, where ongoing / future Government COVID-19 restrictions disrupt physical attendance.

Assessments on the Programme

All units must be completed over the 2-year programme in order to achieve the full HND qualification. Students will be assessed via centre-devised, and Pearson-set assignments throughout the course.

Learning Outcomes and Knowledge

Our unique programme will offer students opportunities to develop core skills in music, along with a wealth of experience and a professional portfolio to present their work for future industry employment. The programme also provides many opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate the wide range of transferable skills that employers are seeking.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and careers

Our HND is designed to provide the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills for a wide range of careers in fields related to music. The Level 5 Higher National Diploma is recognised by Higher Education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant Music-related courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Music Technology
- BA and BSc (Hons) in Music Business
- BSc (Hons) in Performance
- BA (Hons) in Song writing
- BA (Hons) in Professional Musicianship
- BA (Hons) in Commercial Modern Music
- BA (Hons) in Music Production

Career Opportunities (this list is not exhaustive)

- Studio engineer
- Live sound engineer
- Composer for film, TV, games/apps, media
- Sound designer/assistant sound designer
- Arranger
- Songwriter
- Music producer
- Label manager
- Record label owner
- Music education

Entry Requirements

We have flexible requirements for course entry and the course is open to all applicants. Desirable qualification: minimum 64 UCAS tariff points from A Levels or a Level 3 Diploma in a related subject or a relevant Access programme. Those with previous experience or learning that is relevant may be eligible via our APL process towards this course. Mature applicants (21 years and above) with suitable background and experience may be accepted without formal qualifications. All applicants must complete a satisfactory interview.

Attendance Expectations

2 years, 2 days per week.

Fee Information

These fees relate to 2021/2022

Tuition Fees: £5975 per year (Student loans are available for this course)

All eligible full-time Home and EU undergraduate students are entitled to apply for affordable Student Loans and Grants towards their tuition fees. For more information, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

For students to be eligible for funding from Student Finance England, they must be studying on an eligible course at a provider registered with the Office for Students (OfS). The OfS is the new independent regulator for higher education in England and all higher education providers need to register with the OfS for their students to be eligible for student support in the 2020-21 academic year. The OfS will start publishing providers on its Register from July 2018. We have made an application to register and expect a decision by December 2020. No provider will be able to confirm whether student support is available until it has a decision from the OfS. Visit www.officeforstudents.org.uk for more information.

Additional Course Costs

The following costs should be used as a guide only. Arrangements apply to 2021 entry.

- Overdue charges apply to library loans associated with the course, to encourage you to return any resources you borrow on time.
- E – book links will be made available once the course has commenced.
- There is no charge for course hand-outs.

Financial Support Information

The government provides financial assistance to help pay for tuition fees and to help with living costs. To find out more, visit the website at: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

We operate a financial hardship discretionary fund totalling £3000 for each academic year. For more information on any funding, financial or money issues, please contact: mail@higherrhythm.co.uk

How to Apply

To apply please visit the course webpage:
<https://www.higherrhythm.co.uk/courses/hnd-music-technology/>

Or call us on: 01302 327769

Disability Support Information

We are committed to a programme of support to ensure that our Equality and Diversity policy and practices are fully effective. We recognise the importance of effective support in enabling all students to achieve their potential and will continue to improve our support provision.

The earlier you request support, the quicker it can be provided. So, contact us in good time before your course starts if you require adjustments, or further support.

Admissions Process

For details on higher education admissions procedures, please see the Higher Rhythm web page: <https://www.higherrhythm.co.uk/courses/hnd-music-technology/>

Appeals Process for Students

The Higher Rhythm appeal policy states that a formal appeal should be made only after the learner has exhausted informal means of resolving issues and is available for download at: <https://www.higherrhythm.co.uk/public-policies/>

Any learner who wishes to make a formal appeal against a Centre decision, should submit the appeal in writing within 14 working days of receiving notification of the decision; this should be sent to the Head of Centre. The centre will supply relevant additional policy information / processes guidance on request.

Students will not be able to appeal to Pearson unless they have first gone through the appeals process with Higher Rhythm. If a student wishes to enquire about an appeal against Higher Rhythm which they feel may have put them at a disadvantage, then the student should email vocationalqualitystandards@pearson.com within 14 calendar days of being told the outcome of the centre's appeals process.

Pearson assessment experts have the responsibility for the matter being appealed and reviewing cases. If you are not happy with the outcome of the enquiry you have 14 days in which to request that a Preliminary Appeal Review is undertaken. More information regarding enquiries and appeals can be found on the Pearson website: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centres-learners-and-employees/Enquiries_and_Appeals_on_Pearson_Vocational_Qualifications.pdf

Further Details

Email: mail@higherrhythm.co.uk or call 01302 327769

Course Leader, Dan Whitehouse: danwhitehouse@higherrhythm.co.uk