

MUSG 9005: Major Research Project

Module Details	
Module Code:	MUSG 9005
Module Long Title:	Major Research Project APPROVED
Version:	1
Indicative NFQ level:	
Valid From:	Sept 2026 (September 2026)
Language of Instruction:	English
ECTS Credits::	30
Module Type	
No Module study modes listed	
Current Coordinator::	Maria Mchale
Module Coordinators:	- Julie Martin Maisel (01 April 2025 to 02 April 2025) - Maria Mchale (02 April 2025 to ---)
School Responsible:	Conservatoire
Campus:	City Campus
Module Overview	This module sees the students complete a Research Project, building on foundations developed in 'Issues in Musical Scholarship.' Students are required to choose a topic related to their instrument/voice. The project may consist of either a written dissertation or practice-based research through a performance-led project. A performance-led project integrates both performance and other research outputs, such as audio-visual and multimedia materials, artistic compositions, written commentary, scholarly editions, catalogues, etc. depending on the nature of the project. Pedagogy and Performance students are required to submit a Teaching Portfolio relating to instrumental/vocal teaching and learning in addition to a Research Project as outlined above. Students will research their own teaching practice through activities such as: - recorded examples of lessons from each student's own teaching practice accompanied by student critical reflections - case studies of individual pupils and their progression over time - student reflections on their own philosophy of teaching, including critical commentary on their approach to teaching strategies and resources Students also attend the Conservatoire's regular Research Symposium Series which highlights postgraduate research. This is an important part of the students' development as researchers, integrating them into the Conservatoire's research community and giving them opportunities to share their work in a supportive environment.
Learning and Teaching Methods	Students receive individual supervision in preparation for submitting their project. The number of self-directed learning hours is indicative of the student's ownership of the project and that substantial research and writing is undertaken independently while under the guidance of a supervisor. Pedagogy and Performance students' Teaching Portfolio will be supported by the 'Critical Perspectives in Pedagogy' module and will be supervised by their Principal Study Lecturer. Students will attend the Conservatoire's Research Symposium Series to engage with the wider postgraduate community and to share their research project in progress.
Indicative Syllabus	
1. 1. Research techniques/methodologies 2. Bibliography 3. Academic writing 4. Presentation skills 5. Creating/designing and presenting a Teaching Portfolio (Pedagogy and Performance students only) 1.1) n/a	

Learning Outcomes		
Upon successful completion of this module the learner will be able to		
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MLO1	Present a substantial piece of work that addresses a clear research question through a written dissertation or practice-based project	
MLO2	Manage a research project – either a written dissertation or practice-based project – that spans several chapters/outputs but has a consistent line/thread throughout.	
MLO3	Critically engage with current scholarship/practice on the subject.	
MLO4	Analyse and evaluate the findings.	
MLO5	Draw conclusions from the research undertaken.	
MLO6	Present the Research Project outputs in a coherent and scholarly manner, as appropriate to the topic and research methodology, and adhere to the Conservatoire House Style Guide.	
MLO7	Engage with other postgraduate researchers through the Research Symposium Series.	
MLO8	Share their research progress through presentations.	
MLO9	Create/design and present a Teaching Portfolio (Pedagogy and Performance students only).	
Requisites		
Requisite Type	Module Title	Type
No requisites exist.		

Module Content & Assessment	
Assessment Breakdown	%
Other Assessment(s)	100.00%
Derogations from the General Assessment Regulations	
Where a student fails this module at the first attempt, a further three attempts will be provided.	

Assessments

No Formal Examination			
Other Assessment(s)			
Assessment Type	Dissertation	% of Total Mark for Module	100
Indicative Week	Week 30	Learning Outcomes	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
Semester	Not Set	Assessment Threshold:	None
Assessment Role	Not yet determined	Assessment Authenticity	Not Online
Pass/Fail	No		
Assessment Description For Musicology and Performance students, this module is assessed through a dissertation of 15,000-20,000 words OR a performance-related project of 7,000-10,000 words: (100%). For Pedagogy and Performance students, this module is assessed through a dissertation of 12,000-15,000 words OR a performance-related project of 5,000-7,000 words (65%) AND a Teaching Portfolio (35%)			
Reassessment Requirement			
No repeat examination <i>Reassessment of this module will be offered solely on the basis of coursework and a repeat examination will not be offered.</i>			
Special repeat arrangements, if applicable N/A			

Module Activity

Full Time hours per semester	
Activity Type	Duration (Hours)
Supervision	24
Self Directed	556
Lecture	20
Hours (up to 100 for 5 ECTS credits)	600.00

Recommended Reading List
<i>This module does not have any book resources</i>
<i>This module does not have any journal article/paper resources</i>
<i>This module does not have any other resources</i>

Review

Module Extra Information

Editor(s)

Editor

Maria Mchale

Julie Martin Maisel

Module Modalities				
No Module Modalities				
Affiliated Programmes				
Programme Code		Programme Title		Programme Version
TU388		Master of Music		3
TU389		Master of Music		3
Status Log				
Initial Status	End Status	User	Date	Comment
Quality Office	Approved	Michael Keane	08/Jun/2026 09:07	
Head of School	Quality Office	Paul McNulty	19/Jan/2026 16:36	Module approved at MMus programme amendment.
Draft	Head of School	Julie Martin Maisel	10/Jan/2026 13:57	Dear Paul, In the Assessment, I have changed the indicative week to week 30. Julie
Head of School	Draft	Paul McNulty	19/Dec/2025 16:07	
Draft	Head of School	Julie Martin Maisel	08/Dec/2025 07:03	
Head of School	Draft	Paul McNulty	03/Dec/2025 09:18	
Draft	Head of School	Julie Martin Maisel	08/Sep/2025 17:42	
Head of School	Draft	Paul McNulty	05/Sep/2025 17:01	See email 4.09.25
Draft	Head of School	Julie Martin Maisel	06/Jun/2025 12:33	
	Draft	Julie Martin Maisel	01/Apr/2025 11:14	New Module Created