



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course

Specification

BA (Hons) Audio Engineering

Course Code:BAUEN

2021/22

Award & Title **BSc (Hons) Audio Engineering
(BAUEN)**

**Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2021/22
Undergraduate Entrants**

confirmed at MARCH 2021

General Information

Award Bachelor of Science (with Honours) Audio Engineering

Contained Awards Bachelor of Science Audio Engineering
Diploma of Higher Education Audio Engineering
Certificate of Higher Education Audio Engineering

Awarding Body Leeds Beckett University

Level of Qualification & Credits Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education
Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5
and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360
credits in total).

Course Lengths & Standard

Timescales Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter.
The length of the course is confirmed below, and modes of
delivery will be confirmed prior to the start date in line with
Government guidance:

- 3 years (full time)
- 4 years (full time with a one year placement)
- 6 years (part time)

Part Time Study PT students will be supported by the course team to
determine an appropriate selection of modules from the

level for each year of study. PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.

Location(s) of Delivery

City Campus and Headingley Campus, Leeds

Entry Requirements

Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning.

Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Course Fees

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Outlook Calendar
- ii) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director

Michael Ward

Your Academic Advisor

The name and contact details of your Academic Advisor will be provided during induction.

Your Course Administrator

Bethwyn Osborne MusicCourseAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

Leeds Beckett is dedicated to improving the employability of our students and one of the ways in which we do this is to support our students to gain valuable work experience through work based placements. Our Schools and placement teams have developed strong links with companies, many of whom repeatedly recruit our students into excellent placement roles. Our teams are dedicated to supporting students through every stage of the placement process. Details of how to contact our placement teams may be found here:

<http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/placement-information>

Length

48 weeks, undertaken between year 2 and year 3 (Level 5 and Level 6)

Location

Students are responsible for obtaining their own placement, with assistance from the University. The locations will vary, dependent on the opportunity.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

Joint Audio Media Education Services (JAMES)

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

The music courses in the School of Film, Music and Performing Arts are accredited by JAMES who are backed by the Music Producers Guild, Association of Professional Recording Services and UK Screen Association. JAMES accreditation ensures that the curriculum is up to date and relevant for the industry and equips graduates with a strong and appropriate range of skills. Leeds Beckett is the first JAMES Integrated Learning Centre in England. The course holds the accreditation and students sign up to the JAMES database after graduation.

Course Overview

Aims

The course aims to develop student's skills in six broad subject areas: Audio Engineering, Audio Electronics, Acoustics, Audio Recording, Audio Programming and Professional Practice. Graduates will be capable problem solvers and designers in these subject areas and will be reflective and professional in their work.

The course addresses the requirement of the professional audio industries for technically adept graduates who are capable of solving complex audio engineering problems. This need is highlighted by some of the latest research from Creative and Cultural Skills, feedback from our current accreditation body for the music courses, JAMES, and discussions with visiting lecturers and employers. Graduates will be able to design audio systems for a wide variety of purposes, solve

acoustic problems through systematic measurement, analysis and design and create software and hardware tools for music recording and reproduction. Graduates will have a systematic understanding of audio in the digital, analogue and acoustic domains.

As well as addressing some of the specific needs of the professional audio market, the course will address the needs of the UK marketplace for graduates with wide skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This course will have a strong engineering and mathematical focus applied within creative contexts such as the recording studio and performance venues.

Alongside the engineering focus, the course will allow students to work with creative practitioners from the School of Film, Music and Performing Arts and also the wider creative network in the Leeds area. Audio Engineering students will mix with musicians, producers, filmmakers, composers and performers, providing valuable engineering and technical skills and knowledge and developing strong professional links for the future. Leeds has an exciting and vibrant arts and music scene for our undergraduates and graduates to involve themselves in.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Use a systematic understanding of the factors affecting sound recording and reproduction to solve complex audio engineering problems and critically evaluate these solutions.
- 2 Apply a conceptual understanding to the critical analysis, critical evaluation and design of signals, circuits and devices used for audio.
- 3 Apply a synthesis of appropriate software and interfacing tools in order to design music production, performance and processing tools in creative and technical contexts.
- 4 Demonstrate an applied understanding of the physical nature and behaviour of sound and select and apply appropriate techniques to devise solutions to acoustical issues and problems.
- 5 Record and manipulate audio using analogue and digital tools to produce high quality musical and audio artefacts and be able to critically evaluate these recordings.
- 6 Demonstrate a level of professional practice and enterprise relevant to the subject area and be able to critically reflect on this practice with reference to a global context.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The course delivery is based around a core of laboratory, practical and seminar tuition supported by lectures. Guest lecturers from industry and academia help emphasise professional and intellectual developments and ensure that practical studies are underpinned by a contextual and theoretical understanding.

Demonstrations of equipment, techniques and concepts will take place in seminar sessions in order to contextualise and illustrate some of the theory covered in lectures. Students will also be required to carry out their own investigations in both supervised and non-supervised environments.

Learning and teaching takes place in an appropriate range of industry standard recording studios, laboratories and computer facilities. These provide a challenging and professional learning environment, which usefully mirrors the context of professional practice. In the higher levels of the course students will be expected to work on location and engage with local companies for some of their practical work. This work asks them to undertake the measurements typically undertaken in industry using equipment, methods, standards and practice used in those industries.

Students will be expected to produce artefacts as part of the assessment for the course and this may take the form of software, hardware, recordings or installations.

Clear longitudinal themes through the course allow students to revisit subject areas and build on previous learning. These themes are clearly related to industry skills, QAA benchmarks and UK-SPEC guidelines.

Group work engages students in developing their interpersonal and professional skills. Through employing interpersonal skills and working as members of teams students develop their understanding of project management and enterprise.

Collaboration is encouraged on project work both within the course and across the wider Leeds School of Arts. Modules such as the 'Level 5 Project' allow for collaboration across the School and the wider University. This is supported through individual and collaborative briefs that investigate the scenarios that bring creative and technical expertise together to produce innovative audio-visual experiences. This module runs on three undergraduate courses within the Music subject area. Other courses within the School offer similar provision within their module diets to facilitate broader collaboration. Option modules further allow for students on BSc Audio Engineering to collaborate and undertake peer-learning with students from different awards. This creates some vibrant teaching and learning activities.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Part time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Analogue and Digital Audio Systems (20 credits)	Y	Audio Electronics (20 credits)	Y
Acoustics and Critical Listening (20 credits)	Y	Creative Audio Technologies (20 credits)	Y
Audio Engineering Skills (20 credits)	Y	Studio Engineering Techniques (20 credits)	Y

Level 5

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Audio Transducer Design (20 credits)	Y	Level 5 Project (20 credits)	Y
Audio System Design (20 credits)	Y	Acoustics and Psychoacoustics (20 credits)	Y
Digital Signal Processing (20 credits)	Y	*Elective (20 credits)	N

*Electives are selected from a range of specialisms. The following specialist areas are indicative of what we offer in a typical year. There may be some variance in their availability dependent on their popularity with a given student cohort.

- Live Sound
- Interactive Music

Level 6

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Audio Engineering Project (40 credits)	Y	Audio Engineering Project (40 credits)	Y
Sound Reproduction Systems (20 credits)	Y	Applied Acoustics (20 credits)	Y
*Elective (20 credits)	N	Spatial Audio (20 credits)	Y

The option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules.

*Electives are selected from a range of specialisms. The following specialist areas are indicative of what we offer in a typical year. There may be some variance in their availability dependent on their popularity with a given student cohort.

- Game Audio
- Field Recording
- Designing Sound

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

L4 is assessed predominantly by coursework.

L5 is assessed predominantly by coursework.

L6 is assessed predominantly by coursework.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	266 hours	251 hours	207 hours
Independent Study	934 hours	949 hours	993 hours
Placement	-		-

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Advice Hub on either campus. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Advice Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. Email enquiries may be directed to studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.