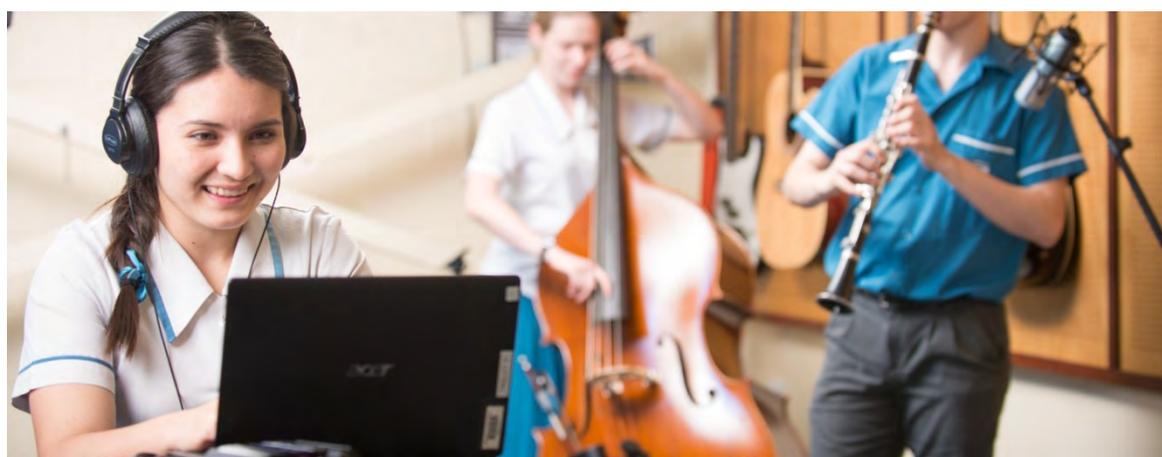


Why study Music?

Subject guide 2013



What is Music all about?

Music holds a significant and special place in the everyday life of all cultures and societies. Studying Music can enhance your enjoyment of music and the arts, develop your practical and creative potential, and allow you to contribute to your community's cultural life.

The course of study encourages you to become a creative and adaptable thinker and problem solver, making informed decisions and developing your abilities to analyse and critically evaluate. A deeper level of knowledge, understanding and active participation in music making may support you in maintaining a lifelong engagement with music as an art form and as a means of creative, artistic and emotional expression.

What will you learn?

The Music course is based around three broad areas; composition, the creation of music, musicology, the study of music in social, historical and cultural contexts, performance, the interpretation of music through playing, singing and conducting.

All learning in these areas leads to developing your musicianship, the unique set of knowledge, understandings, skills, attitudes and artistic sensitivities that will allow you to think, work and engage in the world of music and to participate in all forms of music making. Underpinning these three areas is knowledge and understanding of music elements and concepts, and the skills to interpret and apply these within a range of music activities.

How will you learn?

Music is often collaborative, so you will participate in activities such as composing, arranging, investigating, researching, rehearsing, listening and performing in a variety of contexts, styles and genres to present your music ideas.

In *composition* you will explore and experiment with sounds, instruments, styles, new media and methods of documenting sound to express your personal music ideas.

In *musicology* you will research, analyse and evaluate music from many sources to communicate your music ideas and express music viewpoints.

In *performance* you will have opportunities to develop your practical music skills by playing instruments, singing, conducting and directing music performances — both solo and ensemble — to create or re-create musical works.

You will be encouraged to attend live music performances, view music films and videos, and participate in school-based and extracurricular music activities.

You will also have opportunities to become adept in using various music-related technologies, including exploring innovative music-making techniques, experimenting with alternative methods of representing sound, and manipulating musical elements through electronic and new media.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment in Music gives you opportunities to demonstrate your musicianship and apply your knowledge and understanding of music elements and concepts.

In Music, assessment instruments include:

- composition tasks, which require you to create music (applying your creative, expressive, aural, cognitive and technical skills)
- extended responses (written, spoken or multimodal), which require you to analyse, evaluate and synthesise music to express a viewpoint;
- written examinations, which require you to respond independently to questions or statements, under supervision; items may require you to read, listen to, interpret and analyse scores and recordings
- performance tasks, which require you to perform to an audience (demonstrating and interpreting music elements and concepts through playing, singing and/or conducting).

In Year 12, you will be expected to complete two composition tasks, two musicology tasks and two performance tasks. These tasks may be combined. You must show evidence of extended writing as part of these tasks. You will also complete an assessment task after verification that assesses composition, musicology or performance.

How can parents/carers help?

Your parents/carers may help you by:

- discussing different views of current Music issues with you
- encouraging and helping you find suitable websites, documentaries, journals and other resources
- encouraging you to take part in school-based activities, including field trips, and extracurricular activities
- offering their services as guest speakers if they are involved in this area of study or related industry
- encouraging safe and ethical behaviour
- contacting your school to establish communication with your teachers to help understand the work undertaken at senior level, and to become familiar with assessment requirements.

Where can Music take you?

This subject contributes four credits towards the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). If you would like to learn more about this certificate, please visit the QCE page on the QCAA website www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/589.html.

A course of study in Music can establish a basis for further education and employment in the fields of music performance, composition, music research, pedagogy, sound technology, music theatre, Arts administration, and emerging creative industries.

For further information about future tertiary pathways, consult the QTAC Guide to Tertiary Courses www.qtac.edu.au.

More information

This subject guide relates to courses developed from the *Music Senior Syllabus 2013*. If you would like more information, please visit the subject page on the QCAA website www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/20324.html or email senior.syllabuses@qcaa.qld.edu.au.