

# TRINITY LABAN

## Programme Specification: BMus

<b>Programme</b>	BMus(Composition/Jazz/Performance/Performer-Composer)
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Location of study</b>	King Charles Court and Blackheath Halls
<b>Mode and duration</b>	4 years full time
<b>UK Credits</b>	480
<b>ECTS</b>	240

## Summary Description

The BMus Programme is designed for students wishing to be professional musicians: performers and composers. It aims to equip students with the necessary musical skills and knowledge required by the contemporary profession in its widest sense but with a focus on the evolving Classical and Jazz traditions; the Jazz and Composition pathways offer discrete comprehensive specialist training.

The BMus is of four years duration and by the end of the programme you will be able to create music as an instrumentalist, vocalist, composer or a composer-performer at a level appropriate to entry to the profession and/or undertake Masters level study. You will have established a secure artistic personality and developed a range of sophisticated professional skills. As an emerging artist you will have created music – solo, small and large group – in a variety of settings and in relation to a range of audiences. You will have gained understanding of the music profession and its audiences in contemporary society. Through your understanding of audience you will develop collaborative, digital and entrepreneurial skills in support of a professional career. The programme prepares you to communicate at the highest levels as an artist through your instrument/voice/compositions and to engage audiences through informed discussion, text and digital media where appropriate.

Years 1 (Level 4) and 2 (Level 5) lay the foundations for technique, artistic expression, contextual knowledge and musicianship – all intrinsic to being a musician – through

intensive practical and core academic work. Years 3 [6(1)] and 4 [6(2) Hons)] offer greater optionality and creative specialism, with a focus on developing your performance and composition skills, critical thinking, and additional specialisms through electives that permit you to begin to shape your individual musical and career pathway. The final year includes an Artist as Innovator Capstone Project that forms your professional portfolio as you graduate and enter the profession. In each year of the programme you will participate in a CoLab project, during the annual CoLab festival. CoLab is a central part of the learning culture at Trinity Laban, giving you an opportunity to innovate and challenge the artistic status quo.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, a student will be able to demonstrate:

### **Knowledge and understanding of:**

- advanced musical knowledge that supports performance/composition;
- a broad representative selection of repertoire relating to Principal Study, including works from the canon as well as those from marginalised voices;
- the context of music and music performance (past, present and future eventualities);
- the multidisciplinary scope of the arts and their broader contexts;
- a range of evolving artistic and professional contexts; and
- issues relating to musicians' health and well-being and their implications for maintaining a successful career.

### **Skills:**

- individual musical personality and artistry in a variety of musical domains supported by a secure level of skill;
- the ability to apply specialist musical skills to performance/composition, (including both digital and in-person contexts);
- the ability to generate and input creative ideas and skills to collaborative projects taking a leadership role where appropriate;
- the ability to evaluate changes in the art form and to contribute to its development, taking a leadership role where appropriate;
- the ability to devise, sustain and communicate ideas and concepts;
- the ability to apply appropriate business, technological, and organisational skills;
- the ability to apply skills of communication and presentation appropriate for a wide range of professional demands; and

- the ability to apply independent life-long learning skills.

**Values and attitudes:**

- understanding of, and respect for, a range of social and aesthetic values relating to the artist in society;
- understanding of, and respect for the dynamics involved in collaboration, teamwork and leadership;
- understanding of personal responsibilities in artistic and educational domains; and
- understanding of, and commitment to, developing behaviours that support autonomous, self-directed learning.

## Graduate Attributes

In achieving institutional learning and teaching goals, Trinity Laban aims to produce graduates from our undergraduate programmes who (variously through their differing programmes of study):

1. Are highly creative and resourceful and exhibit technical excellence within their field;
2. Have outstanding performance skills;
3. Are familiar with the possibilities offered by and through collaborative forms of working;
4. Have extensive knowledge of the context within which dance/music work is created and performed;
5. Are confident in the creative use of technologies within their art-form;
6. Have the skills to develop as effective project leaders, able both to devise and manage their own performance projects, workshops, research, and to participate as team members in such activities;
7. Have the capacity to recognise the applied potential of their art form to engage with a variety of contexts such as social, community, performance, business, education;
8. Have the potential to articulate persuasively and encourage and direct the participation of others in their art form; and
9. Are equipped to take advantage of the wide range of employment opportunities available within the arts industries, and who understand how to generate their own work and have the skills to manage a sustainable and enriching career.

# Curriculum

## Structure:

### COMPOSITION:

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Principal Study 4	M40001	40	Core	No	4
Dance, Film, Narrative 4	M40004	30	Core	No	4
Music, Culture and Society 4	M40007	20	Core	No	4
Applied Musicianship 4	M40002	20	Core	No	4
Transition into HE 4	M40008	10	Core	Yes	4
Principal Study 5	M50001	40	Core	No	5
Dance, Film, Narrative 5	M50006	30	Core	No	5
Music, Culture and Society 5	M50005	20	Core	No	5
Applied Musicianship 5	M50002	20	Core	No	5
Harmony & Counterpoint 5	M50012	10	Core	Yes	5
Principal Study 6(1)	M60002	50	Core	No	6(1)
Dance, Film, Narrative 6(1)	M60006	30	Core	No	6(1)
Elective Level 6(1)	M60003	20	Core	No	6

Artist as Entrepreneur 6(1)	M60005	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Arranging 6(1)	M60007	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Principal Study 6(2)	M60008	60	Core	No	6(2)
Dance, Film, Narrative 6(2)	M60024	30	Core	No	6(2)
Elective Level 6(2)	M60026	10	Core	Yes	6(2)
Artist as Innovator Capstone Project 6(2)	M60027				

#### JAZZ:

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Principal Study 4	M40001	40	Core	No	4
Group Music Making 4	M40004	30	Core	No	4
Jazz History 4	M40007	20	Core	No	4
Applied Musicianship Jazz 4	M40003	20	Core	No	4
Transition into HE 4	M40008	10	Core	Yes	4
Principal Study 5	M50001	40	Core	No	5
Group Music Making 5	M50004	30	Core	No	5
Jazz History 5	M50007	20	Core	No	5

Applied Musicianship Jazz 5	M50003	20	Core	No	5
Jazz Counterpoint 5	M50013	10	Core	Yes	5
Principal Study 6(1)	M60002	50	Core	No	6(1)
Group Music Making 6(1)	M60004	30	Core	No	6(1)
Elective Level 6(1)	M60003	20	Core	No	6
Artist as Entrepreneur 6(1)	M60005	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Arranging 6(1)	M60007	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Principal Study 6(2)	M60008	60	Core	No	6(2)
Group Music Making 6(2)	M60025	30	Core	No	6(2)
Elective Level 6(2)	M60026	20	Core	No	6
Artist as Innovator Capstone Project 6(2)	M60027	10	Core	Yes	6(2)

**PERFORMANCE:**

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Principal Study 4	M40001	40	Core	No	4
Group Music Making 4	M40004	30	Core	No	4

Music, Culture and Society 4	M40007	20	Core	No	4
Applied Musicianship 4	M40002	20	Core	No	4
Transition into HE 4	M40008	10	Core	Yes	4
Principal Study 5	M50001	40	Core	No	5
Group Music Making 5	M50004	30	Core	No	5
Music, Culture and Society 5	M50005	20	Core	No	5
Applied Musicianship 5	M50002	20	Core	No	5
Harmony & Counterpoint 5	M50012	10	Core	Yes	5
Principal Study 6(1)	M60002	50	Core	No	6(1)
Group Music Making 6(1)	M60004	30	Core	No	6(1)
Elective Level 6(1)	M60003	20	Core	No	6
Artist as Entrepreneur 6(1)	M60005	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Arranging 6(1)	M60007	10	Core	Yes	6(1)
Principal Study 6(2)	M60008	60	Core	No	6(2)
Group Music Making 6(2)	M60025	30	Core	No	6(2)
Elective Level 6(2)	M60026	20	Core	No	6
Artist as Innovator Capstone Project 6(2)	M60027	10	Core	Yes	6(2)

## **Key Progression Points**

Students must pass all credits in each year in order to progress (notwithstanding compensation) and must successfully complete any resits before fully enrolling in the next year of the programme (provisional enrolment may be permitted in some circumstances). An Assessment Board meeting will be held at the end of each academic year to ratify results and make decisions about students' progression and awards. Notification of the decision will be sent to students in writing alongside a transcript of results following the end of each year of study.

Where an assessment component is failed, a resit may be permitted by the Assessment Board (or by the Interim Assessment Panel subject to confirmation by the Assessment Board). The mark will be capped at the minimum pass mark of 40%. The date and mode of reassessment will be set by the Interim Assessment Panel or by the Assessment Board (depending on the timing of the assessment).

## **Electives**

Students will choose one elective in each level 6 year from a list of options that is provided to students in term 2 of the previous academic year. The Module Specifications for the electives that are offered in the next academic year will be provided to students at the same time. Prior experience is expected for some electives as outlined in the individual elective module specifications. Below is an indicative list of modules that have been offered to students in previous years (not all modules were offered each year).

- Advanced Arranging and Orchestration
- Advanced Conducting
- Advanced Instrumental/Vocal Teaching
- Analysis for Performance: Communicating Form
- Arranging
- Composing for Media
- Conducting
- Creative Leadership
- Cultural Perspectives in Music
- Digital Musicianship for Performers
- Free Improvisation
- Improvising with Indian and Arab Music
- Instrumental/Vocal Teaching
- Introduction to Music as Therapy

- Jazz Perspective on Counterpoint and Harmony in the Extended Common Practice
- Music and Dance
- Music, Gender and Sexuality
- Opera and Theatre pre-1900
- Opera and Theatre post-1900
- Playing for the Dance
- Practical Application of Alexander Technique
- Psychology in Music Performance
- Research Project (formerly Capstone Project)
- Socially Connected Performance Practice
- Traditional Music to Contemporary Folk Music

### **Pre-requisites**

Advanced Arranging and Orchestration requires prior completion of Arranging, or the demonstration of an appropriate level of knowledge.

Advanced Conducting requires prior completion of Conducting, or the demonstration of an appropriate level of knowledge.

Advanced Instrumental/Vocal Teaching requires prior completion of Instrumental/Vocal Teaching, or the demonstration of an appropriate level of knowledge.

Jazz Perspective on Counterpoint and Harmony in the Extended Common Practice requires prior knowledge of basic jazz harmony and syntax.

## **Learning and Teaching**

This programme assumes 4800 learning hours. Contact time is defined as tuition which is delivered by a tutor. It includes performances, individual tuition, larger group tuition, seminars, departmental & academic classes, directed rehearsals, masterclasses, competitions and supervised study. Contact and self-study time is itemised in module descriptions. Rehearsal and performance contact time will vary according to the instrumental discipline.

### **Learning and teaching methods**

Learning takes place through a blend of formal tuition, experiential learning and personal study. There is a blend of in-person and online provision, some of which is delivered asynchronously. Instrumental / composition / vocal tuition is the central element of provision consisting of individual tuition, group tuition, rehearsals, workshops, seminars and masterclasses. You will develop and contextualize your individual tuition within a broad range of solo, small group/non-directed and large group/directed activities. Visiting artists, ensemble directors and lecturers will expose you to a variety of views and approaches current within the profession. CoLab is an integral element of performance studies and is a ring-fenced period of the academic year where students work together to create and develop creative projects and where artistic risks and innovation are prioritised.

The programme aims to enable you to develop independent learning strategies for self-directed, autonomous, lifelong learning. Your tutors will regularly encourage you to reflect on learning and to formulate personal programmes of study and targets for learning.

### **Placements and Exchanges**

A list of institutions where exchange is possible is published on the TL website:

<https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/student-life/international-students/student-exchange-programmes>

Student mobility will normally take place in either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the programme. Credit will normally be recognised up to a maximum of the equivalent of 40 UK credits (30 ECTS) in the academic year where mobility has taken place. The mark awarded for the year will be calculated using the average mark of the credits awarded at the home institution (TL) for that year.

Placement opportunities are governed by procedures set out in the Trinity Laban Work-based Learning Guidelines.

## **Assessment**

### **Overview**

Assessment methods as far as possible mirror professional contexts. In the Principal Study and Group Music Making modules, assessments for performance/composition activities will include a combination of solo, small/non-directed group, large/directed group and technical work. Work will be captured in an online portfolio, requiring critical

reflection on a range of contextual matters (the wider profession, audience, performance practice etc). Other modules, including The Artist as Entrepreneur 6 (1), Music, Culture and Society, Applied Musicianship and Electives feature a blend of assessment methods both written and practical (including arrangement, writing, verbal presentations, composition, improvisation, performance etc.) relating to performance practice, contextual and historical knowledge, and musicianship; elective assessments will focus on employability skills and knowledge. Assessment in some performance activities and the CoLab festival takes place through the development of an online portfolio of materials. There is an emphasis on developing students' digital skills, with regular updates of key software and platforms.

### **What do I have to do to pass?**

In order to pass the programme you must achieve the credit for each module in each Part. You must pass each module with an overall mark of 40 (except where compensation applies). There may also be a requirement for you to achieve a minimum mark in each assessment. Where this is the case it will be stated in the module specification.

Certain modules may be compensated at the discretion of the assessment board. Compensation is the award of credit for a failed module on the basis of good performance in other modules. Compensation may only be applied to the following modules:

- List of modules eligible for compensation:
  - Transition into HE (Level 4)
  - Harmony & Counterpoint (Level 5)
  - Jazz Counterpoint (Level 5)
  - Arranging (Level 6 (1))
  - Jazz Arranging (Level 6 (1))
  - Artist as Entrepreneur (Level 6 (1))
  - Elective (Level 6)
  - Artist as Innovator Capstone Project (Level 6(2))

Rules applying to compensation can be found in the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes.

## **Awards**

This programme can lead to one of four awards: on successful completion of all level 4 modules, the Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE); on successful completion of all level 4 and 5 modules, the Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE); on successful

completion of 360 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 (1), the BMus (Non-Hons) degree; on successful completion of 480 credits at levels 4, 5, 6(1) and 6(2), the BMus Hons degree.

BMus (Hons):

<b>Year of study</b>	<b>HE Level</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>
Year 4	6(2)	120	60%
Year 3	6(1)	120	30%
Year 2	5	120	10%
Year 1	4	120	Pass/Fail

<b>Class</b>	<b>% required</b>
First class	70
Second class: Upper division	60
Second class: Lower division	50
Third class	40

BMus (Non-Hons):

<b>Year of study</b>	<b>HE Level</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	6(1)	120	70%
<b>Year 2</b>	5	120	30%
<b>Year 1</b>	4	120	Pass/Fail

<b>Class</b>	<b>% required</b>
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

### Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE):

Year of study	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Year 2	5	120	100
Year 1	4	120	0

Class                      % required

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With Distinction                      70

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With Merit                      60

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With Pass                      40

### Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE):

Year of study	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Year 1	4	120	100

Class                      % required

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With Distinction                      70

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With Merit                      60

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With Pass                      40

### **Accreditation and additional qualifications**

All students on the BMus Programme qualify for one free entry to a TCL Diploma during their studies on the programme.

## Admissions Criteria

Entry to the programme is dependent upon selection at audition. The audition comprises a performance / composition audition

## **Academic Entry Requirements**

- Grade 8 standard in Principal Study
- 3 GCSEs (including English Language) at Grade C or above
- Two A level passes (of which one should normally be Music) or Equivalent qualifications and/or relevant prior experience may be considered

Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 5.5 in all elements.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/how-to-apply/music-applications/>