Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music)

You’ll be creating new music from your first year. This is before choosing pathways, such as creative technologies, performing and recording new music, or composing for media. The course can lead you into music industry professions such as management or promotion, and social engagement.

Our music degree prepares aspiring musicians for the rapidly changing music industry. Students are encouraged to create works across musical boundaries and strike out in new directions.

In your final year you’ll work on transdisciplinary industry-connected projects with students from other study areas in the performing arts. You can also participate in music projects which focus on artist development and music-related research.

Why choose this course?
The music industry is riding a digital wave of change. These are exciting times for anyone who wants to strike out in new directions. And QUT’s music degree helps you to prepare for these evolving opportunities. This course offers an innovative learning environment that will help you develop your individual artistic identity and acquire the creative skills to realise your vision in the contemporary music scene.

A key element of the course is a series of regular workshops that address principles of performance, writing and arranging, production and the music industry. Experienced industry practitioners conduct many of these workshops.

You will experience both live and recording studio environments, and hone your skills in a professional setting. Our Skyline Studios are state-of-the-art. You will also learn how to use technology to create music, record and distribute your works, and market your talent. You will be inspired by collaborating with like-minded people on various projects while finding new ways to develop your own artistic vision.

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and creative styles via an audition.

Zoe Davis
Real graduate

‘I play in a band called Cub Sport. In 2013 we did two international tours. We’ve played major festivals including Laneway, Falls Festival and Splendour in the Grass, and are now working on our debut album. I chose QUT’s degree because it was the most contemporary, covering modern aspects of music including production.’
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Real-world learning
You will experience both live and recording studio environments, whether your focus is as a performer or producer. You will learn how to use technology to create and record music, distribute your works, and market your talent.

You will be mentored by internationally renowned industry professionals in production and performance applications. Your teaching staff are high-level creative practitioners with national and international industry links with Q Music, the Australian Independent Record Labels Association, APRA/ AMCOS, Arts Queensland, Creative Media Warehouse, ITC Software Development, MGM Distribution, Island Music, Sony, Music Sales and many more.

You will have the opportunity to participate in music projects that focus on artist development and music-related research, and launch your career through public performances in Brisbane’s live music venues such as The Zoo, The Foundry, Brisbane Powerhouse, The Old Museum and QPAC, as well as at Brisbane Festival.

Entry requirements
Prerequisites
You must successfully:
- perform an audition either in person or by submitting audition materials
- have completed Australian Year 12, or equivalent qualification.

How to apply
We encourage you to apply as soon as possible. Applications submitted after November 30 may not be assessed in time to start study in Semester 1 of the following year.

Apply for this course using the international student application form (PDF file, 297.2 KB).

Nominate an audition date when you complete the form. If you can’t attend an audition, or submit your audition and personal statement video, you won’t be considered for a place in the course.

Brisbane auditions
Date
Tuesday 1 October 2019
Wednesday 2 October 2019
Thursday 3 October 2019
Friday 4 October 2019
Location
Z9, Creative Industries Precinct, cnr of Kelvin Grove Rd & Musk Avenue, QUT Kelvin Grove Campus
Audition feedback
Due to the large number of applications received, we can’t provide feedback to applicants.

I need more information
Contact the Creative Industries Faculty for more information on our audition process. You can get in touch by emailing ci@qut.edu.au or calling 3138 8114.

When do I find out my audition outcome?
International Admissions will notify you of your outcome by email from mid-November.

Minimum English requirements
Students must meet the English proficiency requirements.

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)
Overall 6.5
Listening 6.0
Reading 6.0
Writing 6.0
Speaking 6.0

Course structure
Your course
To meet the course requirements of the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music), you must complete the following:
- Two common units (KYB101 and KYB102) – 24 credit points
- Music major – 168 credit points
- Complementary studies – 48 credit points from the Situated Creative Practice Extension plus 48 credit points chosen from a minor or unit options (electives).

Year 1
- Contemporary developments in music, sound and musicianship skills.
- Develop skills in music technology and software.
- Intensive music studio experience.
- Presentation, music and sound performance.
- Identify your creative direction.

Year 2
- Develop unique crossover musical skills.
- Creative performance and/or music and sound production.
- Intensive project-based program.
- Develop your focus as an artist or creative producer.
- Be mentored by staff and industry professionals.
- Electives available across other disciplines.

Year 3
- Public performances and creative production industry showcases
- Learn to promote yourself and organise events
- Collaborate on projects with other creative artists, producers and industry organisations
- Music industry structure and current issues
- Engage in real-world learning projects
- Personalise your studies through elective units.

Study overseas
Study overseas while earning credit towards your QUT creative industries degree with one of our worldwide exchange partners.
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Overseas study can be for one or two semesters (or during the semester break) and the units you take can be in a creative or non-creative discipline area, depending on how they match with your QUT course. Saving your electives for exchange will allow you the most flexibility.

Customise your degree
If production is your passion, you will focus on creating new music and developing skills in songwriting, studio recording, sequencing, digital processing and writing for acoustic, electric and digital instruments.

If you are interested in performance, you’ll focus on developing your unique performance style and artistic voice, creating new work, using digital technology and developing new interpretations of your repertoire, as well as gaining further experience performing in recording studio and live contexts.

If your passion is making music for film, television, animation, games or any other transdisciplinary media environment, you’ll have opportunities to work with students in those disciplines.

If you wish to become a primary or secondary school dance teacher you have some options. You can complete your dance studies first and then follow with a Master of Teaching in early childhood, primary or secondary education.* Or you can now undertake a double degree in secondary education at the same time as your music degree.

*Check entry requirements for the Master of Teaching for specific teaching areas.

Careers and outcomes
This course can lead you into music industry professions such as performing, management or promotion, and social engagement. Graduates work in an eclectic range of live, recording and multimedia environments as performers, producers, composers, developers of music software and games, DJs and private instrumental music teachers.

Many find national and international success, including Ball Park Music, Cub Sport, The Belligerents, drummers Grant Collins and Pete Skelton, and film composer Michael Edwards.

You can also pursue a career as a qualified school music teacher (with completion of a double degree with secondary education or a Master of Teaching course).

Additional fees
Additional Costs
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. Find out more about additional course requirements and costs.

Scholarships
You can apply for scholarships to help you with study and living costs.

- QUT Excellence Scholarship (Academic)
- Creative Industries International Scholarship
- Equity scholarships scheme
- QUT Sport Scholarship (Elite Athlete)
- QUT Excellence Scholarship (Creative Industries)
- QUT Excellence Scholarship (Elite Visual and Performing Arts)

This information has been prepared for International students and temporary visa holders. For more information and to check if a course is available, visit www.qut.edu.au/international. Last updated on: 27/08/2019. Information contained in this document was correct at the time of printing. The university reserves the right to amend any information, and to cancel, change or relocate any course. CRICOS No.00213J