

MUSIC FUTURE CAREERS

Music at Goldsmiths: Some future career paths

Goldsmiths' Department of Music is hugely varied, and former students have equally diverse lives - from classical musicians and Mercury Prize-winning pop stars, to lawyers, academics and administrators.

What do Music graduates do?

The skills and experience gained during the programme allow graduates to enter the Music industry or any field requiring imagination and communication - including teaching, sales, management, journalism, publishing, public relations and work in the IT sector.

You can find out more about the careers of Goldsmiths Music graduates at www.gold.ac.uk/music/alumni

A sizeable proportion of Goldsmiths Music graduates (23.8% in 2014) go on to further study after their undergraduate course, on programmes such as¹:

- MMus Creative Practice
- MA: Orchestral Artistry; Music, Mind and Brain
- Teaching: through PGCE, SCITT and Teach First

¹Source: *Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education*
This data is collected six months after graduation and shows where graduates start their careers.

What skills will I gain?

Goldsmiths Music graduates develop a wide range of key skills through both the practical and academic content of their degree, including:

- communication (including public speaking, developing and presenting an argument, note taking, report writing)
- analytical thinking
- awareness of social, political and cultural processes
- awareness of social and cultural difference
- ability to take creative approaches
- attention to detail
- team work and collaborative practice
- the ability to undertake detailed research

Graduates also develop specific musical skills including:

- performance
- composition
- use of music technology
- knowledge of a range of historical, contemporary, popular and world styles of music, and the debates and practices surrounding them
- critical listening and score analysis

Areas of work

The choice of areas of work for Music graduates is vast - performing (in orchestras, bands, and as session musicians), composing (for ensembles, film, TV, radio or as songwriters), producing, engineering and teaching. Many also go on to work in supporting

roles in arts administration, event organisation, music marketing, management and PR; and with further qualifications can go into music therapy, music law and music librarianship and archiving.

The creative industries are competitive to enter, and Goldsmiths Music graduates develop the necessary skills and attitudes to be motivated self-starters and autonomous entrepreneurs. A significant number of professional musicians go on to have portfolio careers or become self-employed - blending a number of jobs and roles to create for themselves a dynamic and diverse working life that caters to a number of their interests.

How will the Music Department support me?

The department operates a Professional Practice Scheme that supports students with their future careers and employability. The Scheme includes masterclasses with industry professionals, skills training, CV development, and the chance for creative work to be reviewed by professionals. There are also a range of placement and internship opportunities. You can find out more about the scheme at www.gold.ac.uk/music/pre-freshers/professionalpracticescheme

Where can I find further information?

On the Prospects website, the 'What can I do with my degree?' section is a useful starting point. Here you can access detailed information about careers relating to music.
www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm

Professional bodies

The Musicians' Union www.musiciansunion.org.uk
PPL - music licensing www.ppluk.com
PRS for Music Foundation
www.prsformusicfoundation.com

Other Information sources

Creative Choices www.creative-choices.co.uk/careers/music
Careers in Music www.careersinmusic.co.uk
Prospects sector briefing on the Creative Arts www.prospects.ac.uk
The unsigned guide for artists
www.theunsignedguide.com
Learn about rights, licences and revenue
www.prsformusic.com

"I am a composer from Aberdeenshire, Scotland. After leaving school in 2001 I moved to London to study a Bachelor of Music at Goldsmiths. Although I was well aware that Goldsmiths was such a prestigious arts college I had not quite appreciated that so many artists, musicians and fashion designers who I admired had studied there. Immediately I decided that there was no way I would get in, but not willing to give up on the dream I applied and thankfully was accepted.

My time at Goldsmiths was everything I dreamed of. The BMus covered all aspects of music, providing me with a solid foundation of understanding in composition, history and performance. Goldsmiths projects such a fresh, active, creative outlook in encouraging you to be yourself with the freedom to experiment and develop your own ideas. Having spent three years within such an ideal artistic working environment I decided to further my studies with a Masters in Composition. I am so glad that I made the choice to come to Goldsmiths. I was able to develop my own unique compositional voice with the support of my tutors, which has led to many opportunities as a freelance composer within the music industry."

Claire, BMus Music (2005), MMus Composition (2007)

Goldsmiths Careers Service

The Careers Service has a full programme of events - you can find out more at www.gold.ac.uk/careers

From the moment you arrive at Goldsmiths you can use us to help you plan your future - pop in and book an appointment with a careers consultant.

<http://learn.gold.ac.uk> (search 'Goldsmiths Careers Service')
[@CareersGold](http://www.facebook.com/goldsmiths.careers)