

**ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE  
OF MUSIC & DRAMA  
COLEG BRENHINOL  
CERDD A DRAMA CYMRU**

**PGDip, MA Jazz**

Apply Through: UCAS Conservatoires  
 Institution Code: R59  
 Application Fee: £24  
 Audition Fee (one instrument): £63  
 Applications Open for Entry 2019: 18 July 2018  
 Applications Close: 1 October 2018

This course overview provides a summary of the programmes offered from September 2018. Please note this may be subject to amendment and change in future years. Students are always consulted on such change and details are made available to applicants holding offers. For students to progress from year one to year two on a two-year postgraduate course, students will *normally* have to pass all first year modules.

	PGDip	MA
Core Modules	Jazz Performance 1 (40 credits)  Jazz Performance 2 (40 credits)  The Professional Jazz Musician (20 credits)  Techniques in Jazz Harmony & Arrangement (20 credits)	Jazz Performance 1 (40 credits)  Jazz Performance 2 (40 credits)  The Professional Jazz Musician (20 credits)  Techniques in Jazz Harmony & Arrangement (20 credits)  Jazz Performance as Research (20 credits)  Further Jazz Harmony, Arrangement & Composition (20 credits)
Optional Modules (select one from the list)		The Jazz Journalist (20 credits)  Portfolio of Transcriptions (20 credits)  Vocational Project (Jazz) (20 credits)

### Jazz Performance 1

Core Module

Credits: 40

Assessment: Performance of Transcription (20%), Technical Skills (20%), Performance (60%)

This module will train and support students in the development and synthesis of technical, stylistic, artistic and intellectual skills which form the basis of all performance at an advanced level. Principal Study tuition and associated ensemble coaching in a range of given styles will be supported by technical skills and transcription skills classes.

### Jazz Performance 2

Core Module

Credits: 40

Assessment: Performance (100%)

Building on Jazz Performance 1, this module will provide students with an ability to refine the technical, artistic, stylistic and intellectual skills which underpin performance at a professional level. Principal Study tuition will be supported by classes in which the act of performance is practiced and reflected upon.

### The Professional Jazz Musician

Core Module

Credits: 20

Assessment: Portfolio (50%); Presentation (50%)

This module is concerned with issues relating to the establishment, maintenance and development of a career as a jazz musician. Communication and networking as a professional jazz musician and entrepreneur are explored through workshops covering issues of self-promotion. Various elements of promotional material are discussed, including appropriate use of technology and media. Other classes may include developing an advanced understanding of business practices, rights management and the UK tax laws. Practical classes will explore the breadth and depth of approach required to present oneself (and projects) within a professional environment, understanding the nature of the session world in the UK and abroad, and the need to embrace changing trends in the music business.

### Techniques in Jazz Harmony & Arrangement

Core Module

Credits: 20

Assessment: Portfolio (100%)

Initial group seminars will cover aspects of the concepts behind harmonic functionality, development and analysis before moving on to elements of orchestration. Other workshop sessions will investigate the professional approach to using music notation software. Tutorials will review each student's work and provide advice via verbal feedback, demonstration and peer review. Ensemble activity will provide the opportunity for read-through and aural assessment of work produced.

### Jazz Performance as Research

Core Module (MA Jazz only)

Credits: 20

Assessment: Lecture Recital (100%)

Advanced critical and research skills relating to a key aspect of performance will be explored and presented through a lecture recital. Classes will examine critical listening, transcription and analysis.

### Further Jazz Harmony, Arrangement & Composition

Core Module (MA Jazz only)

Credits: 20

Assessment: Open-rehearsal (40%), Portfolio (60%)

Initial seminars will explore/analyse a range of concepts that lie behind successful jazz composition. An in-depth study of existing works/arrangements will examine the use of expanded forms and detailed textural writing. Students will be encouraged to respond to a variety of commissioning briefs and from here on start to generate an individual response to the demands of the portfolio. Materials will be reviewed in ensuing workshops through group rehearsal. These workshops will enable the students to develop their rehearsal techniques such as communication, aural skills, adaptability, artistic resilience and people/time management.

### The Jazz Journalist

Optional Module for MA Jazz only

Credits: 20

Assessment: Portfolio (100%)

Communication as a jazz musician requires the use of high level and instantaneous critical skills. This module serves to develop a broad range of advanced reflective, critical and written communication skills, both in terms of performances encountered by the student and one of their own performances.

### Portfolio of Transcriptions

Optional Module for MA Jazz only

Credits: 20

Assessment: Portfolio (100%)

The student will be guided to select a specific area of jazz performance for study, that will contribute to an advanced understanding of the techniques of jazz performance and, in particular, improvisation. They will then be expected to undertake self-directed work and present their transcriptions to their supervisor for scrutiny. Further tutorials will focus on identifying areas for analysis and suggest ways of applying the findings to performance.

### Vocational Project

Optional Module

Credits: 20

Assessment: Presentation (100%)

Students are required to identify an area of interest that reflects their career aspiration in order to agree and secure an appropriate placement or self-directed activity. Defined areas include: The Jazz Educator, The Self-Promoting Jazz Musician, The Advanced Session Musician and The Jazz Recording Artist. The precise nature of the project, its requirements and any specific learning outcomes will be established on an individual case basis in advance. On completion of the project, students prepare and deliver a presentation which should reflect on the experience, outline the training benefits gained and place the activity within the context of the student's career development.