

AQA A LEVEL MUSIC: SET WORKS AND AREAS OF STUDY

CODE 7741

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This is an advanced course offering in-depth opportunity for teachers to enrich and enhance their approaches to engaging students effectively and imaginatively in the detail of the music. A course with a different, broader, perspective, the day will also provide opportunity for teachers to take away ideas which will help their students achieve at the highest level.

This course is being held Online, over two sessions, 4.00 – 6.00pm on the dates advertised below.

Sessions will target the analytical and essay skills and knowledge needed for the different Areas of study questions and offer practical advice as to how to implement these.

This course offers music teachers the chance to deepen their knowledge of the new set works (AOS 1 Western Classical Music) while at the same time enrich and enhance their approaches to engaging students effectively and imaginatively in the detail of the music. This course will also look at applying these skills to the optional Areas of Study. A course with a different, broader perspective!

- Strand A: Baroque – the solo concerto
- Strand B: Classical – the operas of Mozart
- Strand C: Romantic – the piano music of Chopin, Brahms and Grieg

PROGRAMME

TIME

Online Session 1: Wednesday 24 February 2021 | Monday 21 June 2021 4.00 – 6.00pm

Overview of the Exam paper and what is needed to succeed

- Reflection on the previous exam sessions
- Structure of the AQA AL Music exam paper
- Map of the two year teaching course: how to build analytical skills and musical knowledge throughout Y12 and Y13

Analysis Part 1: developing the skills to critically appraise music through analysis)

- Developing, shaping and practising analytical skills, building up technical terms for accurate usage, and discussing harmony, tonality, and texture in complex scores.
- Contextual understanding – placing the set works in context and shaping transferable knowledge
- Developing musical language, fluency in score reading and discussing music
- The end game: how to target the likely difficulties in an exam question and score optimal marks

Analysis Part 2: a practical workshop on questions on AO1 set works study: Focussing on Tonality, Harmony and Texture

Examples drawn from Strands A, B and C

- Identifying different ways to appraise a passage; how to vary the method to suit different needs as the AL course progresses
- A focus on Section B questions and the key challenge areas
- Moving forward from analysing one music passage to the next: skills and musical literacy more important than knowledge

Online Session 2: Monday 21 June 2021 | Tuesday 22 June 2021

4.00 – 6.00pm

Analysing Unfamiliar Music

- Teaching students how to apply their knowledge and skills of particular genres to unfamiliar passages
- A focus on Section A contextual questions – what skills and knowledge are required
- Analysing exemplar responses – extended 10 marks questions

AOS 2 – 7: Group Practical workshop looking at examples of successful teaching of the optional areas of study

- The correct terminology to use, and how to teach students how to apply it.
- Examining a variety of approaches to choosing and delivering repertoire
- Depth vs breadth – how much do students need to know to be successful in Sections A and C
- Making the knowledge stick!

Preparing for Section C of the paper

- How to help students apply the appropriate knowledge to the actual question
- Common pitfalls and how to integrate these into your teaching to help students avoid them
- Analysing exemplar responses. What does a top band answer look like?

LOCATION/DATE

Online Session 1

Wednesday 24 February 2021

Online Session 2

Thursday 25 February 2021

Online Session 1

Monday 21 June 2021

Online Session 2

Tuesday 22 June 2021

COURSE LEADER

Rachel Tustain is an experienced examiner and Leader of Music, with seventeen years teaching and leadership experience in a range of different schools. Rachel has experience of leading outstanding Music Departments in a range of contexts as well as leadership across the Performing Arts.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Music teachers of all levels of experience
- Heads of Music looking to change boards
- Anyone teaching the AQA AL course

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain tactics for maximising student success and for growing their general musicianship
- Take away new methods for explaining the set works and their musical context
- Understand how to engage pupils in the analysis of the AOS 1 Set Works
- Explore strategies for bridging the knowledge gap between GCSE to AS
- Gain effective exam techniques, including how to shape preparation and revision