

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 1

Bachelor & Diploma units

PRINCIPAL STUDY 1

Technique Foundations 1

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Technique Foundations 1 is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical development, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, Technique Foundations 1 comprises three separate delivery components: principal lessons, technique classes and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

ENSEMBLE FOUNDATIONS 1

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In this unit, students rehearse and perform a series of musical pieces selected from various contemporary styles and genres to demonstrate the use of diatonic and pentatonic scales. The key components of this unit are repertoire selection and rehearsal techniques, which include effective communication, ensemble roles and responsibilities, etiquette, punctuality, preparedness and constructive participation. In addition, students develop their skills in chart reading and notation by observing and modelling methods of transcription to expand and reinforce knowledge acquired in other units.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 1

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Harmony and Aural Studies 1 is an exciting dive into the world of music, combining hands-on aural training, music theory, and cultural exploration. Students develop essential skills in recognising and notating musical ideas, with a strong focus on contemporary music. Starting with the basics such as the harmonic series, students move straight into identifying and transcribing intervals, chords, and rhythmic patterns, including syncopation and complex time signatures. In the Cultural Traditions sessions, students explore genres such as soul music, analysing its signature melodies, harmonies, and rhythms while uncovering its historical and social influences. Students also learn to apply their research and presentation skills.

CREATIVE FOUNDATIONS

Creative Foundations

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Creativity is more than just inspiration; it is a skill, a discipline, and an essential tool for navigating the complexities of the modern world. In this unit, you will explore creativity's role across diverse disciplines and communities, gaining valuable insight into the ethical and cultural values that shape creative practice. You will develop critical skills to evaluate information, articulate ideas, and confidently reflect on creative work. By engaging with a dynamic community of students from across Collarts, you will have the opportunity to explore your creative potential and establish a strong foundation for your studies and future career in the creative industries.

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 2

Bachelor & Diploma units

PRINCIPAL STUDY 2

Technique Foundations 2

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Technique Foundations 2 is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical mastery, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, Technique Foundations 2 comprises three separate delivery components: principal lessons, technique classes and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

ENSEMBLE FOUNDATIONS 2

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In this unit, students rehearse and perform a series of musical pieces selected from various contemporary styles and genres to demonstrate the use of diatonic and pentatonic scales. The key components of this unit are repertoire selection and rehearsal techniques, which include effective communication, ensemble roles and responsibilities, etiquette, punctuality, preparedness and constructive participation. In addition, students develop their skills in chart reading and notation by observing and modelling methods of transcription to expand and reinforce knowledge acquired in other units.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 2

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In this unit students cover compound intervals, open-voiced triads and 7th chords, diatonic progressions, syncopated rhythms, odd metres, and modes. Students develop notation, transcription, and analysis skills, exploring popular music's structure and historical context. Music Technology Fundamentals introduces DAWs like Logic Pro and Ableton Live, teaching audio recording, production, and the integration of music technology into creative processes. Hands-on projects encourage students to apply technical skills artistically, blending traditional and digital techniques as an outlet for their musical expression.

INDUSTRY FOUNDATIONS

Industry Awareness

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In this unit, you will immerse yourself in the world of the creative industries and explore the many pathways to transforming your passion into a profession. Through insights from industry professionals and hands-on creative activities, you will develop a deeper understanding of how your industry operates while reflecting on your career aspirations and creative potential. From generating ideas to bringing them to life, you will experiment with flexible approaches to creative collaboration, working on cross-disciplinary projects that mirror real-world creative environments. By gaining a clearer perspective on the industry landscape, you will be better equipped to carve out your place as a creative professional and make confident, informed career choices.

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 3

Bachelor units only

PRINCIPAL STUDY 3

Professional Practice 1

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Practice 1 is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical mastery, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, Professional Practice 1 comprises three separate delivery components: principal lessons, technique classes and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

MUSIC DIRECTION 1

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Music Direction 1 allows students the opportunity to apply arranging and performance techniques in a live ensemble context with attention to the components of the ensemble texture including idiomatic roles and groupings such as rhythm section, front line and vocals. This unit builds on the foundational classes in stages 1 and 2 of this stream by introducing a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of blending and communicating within an ensemble, and by using original arrangements. This repertoire complements and reinforces the music theory and aural skills acquired in concurrent streams through two weekly classes: an ensemble rehearsal and a performance forum.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 3

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

This unit integrates digital audio workstations (DAWs) like Logic Pro and Ableton Live into songwriting, enhancing students' skills in harmony, melody, and lyric writing. Through hands-on experience, students refine their technical abilities and explore innovative sounds. Theory and Aural 3 covers compound intervals, voice leading, diatonic 7th chords, syncopated rhythms, odd metres, and modes. Students develop notation, analysis, and transcription skills, applying them to popular music. Classes include structured exercises, historical discussions, and support for original compositions, fostering both technical proficiency and creative confidence in digital and traditional music-making.

INTRODUCTION TO ENTERTAINMENT MANAGEMENT

Industry Awareness

UNIT DESCRIPTION

This unit offers an insider's perspective on the music and entertainment industry. Students explore the evolution of the industry, focusing on key areas such as label management, publishing, licensing, live entertainment, talent management, touring, rights management, distribution, merchandising, and media. This unit gives students an opportunity to situate their own professional interests and career aspirations within the contemporary entertainment industry.

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 4

Bachelor units only

PRINCIPAL STUDY 4

Professional Practice 2

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Practice 2 is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical mastery, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, Professional Practice 2 comprises three separate delivery components: principal lessons, technique classes and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

MUSIC DIRECTION 2

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Music Direction 2 allows students the opportunity to apply arranging and performance techniques in a live ensemble context with attention to the components of the ensemble texture including idiomatic roles and groupings such as rhythm section, front line and vocals. This unit builds on the foundational classes in stages 1, 2 and 3 of this stream by introducing a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of blending and communicating within an ensemble, and by using original arrangements. This repertoire complements and reinforces the music theory and aural skills acquired in concurrent streams through two weekly classes: an ensemble rehearsal and a performance forum.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 4

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In Theory and Aural 4, students study harmonic minor harmony, voice leading, dictation, and rhythmic concepts like African 12/8 and odd time signatures. Cultural Traditions explores genre-specific elements (e.g. Global music), analysing arrangements, performances, and cultural contexts. Students refine analytical, research, and presentation skills through comparative study and discussion.

ELECTIVE

Chosen from other courses at Collarts

UNIT DESCRIPTION

For this unit students will choose one of the nominated units from another degree programs at Collarts. Students ultimately have dozens of units to choose from at this stage in their degree. Audio students could choose units from Entertainment Management, Photography and much more to broaden their knowledge in the creative arts and work with students from other parts of the college.

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 5

Bachelor units only

PRINCIPAL STUDY 5

Professional Presentation 1 – Capstone Pre Production

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Presentation 1 - Capstone Pre Production - is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical development, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, this unit comprises two separate delivery components: principal lessons and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE PRESENTATION 1

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Ensemble Presentation 1 allows students the opportunity to apply arranging and performance techniques in a live ensemble context with attention to the components of the ensemble texture including idiomatic roles and groupings such as rhythm section, front line and vocals. This unit builds on the foundational classes in stages 1-4 of this stream by introducing a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of blending and communicating within an ensemble, and by using original arrangements.

MUSIC TUITION

Industry Awareness

UNIT DESCRIPTION

This unit introduces students to the principles, tools and strategies for delivering music tuition to individuals and small groups. Students will plan a music lesson, prepare resources and exercises using their musicianship skills and understanding of learning and teaching theory, and deliver a segment of the plan to hone their communication and instruction skills. Students will be further introduced to fundamental business and administrative considerations related to music tuition, including invoicing and financial record keeping, insurance, liability and professional conduct.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 5

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Students expand their harmonic and aural knowledge, focusing on diatonic and chromatic harmony, extended chords, and functional voice leading. Aural skills develop through melodic and harmonic dictation, transcription exercises, and rhythmic training in various styles. Practical applications include analysis of popular and jazz harmony, sight-singing, and ear training drills to strengthen musical perception. Students also explore the relationship between music and culture, examining genre-specific characteristics across diverse musical traditions (e.g. Jazz). Through listening, analysis, and discussion, students explore instrumentation, arrangement techniques, and historical influences.

Music Performance

TRIMESTER 6

Bachelor units only

PRINCIPAL STUDY 5

Professional Presentation 2 – Capstone Showcase

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Presentation 2 - Capstone Showcase - is designed to develop vocal and instrumental knowledge and skills in contemporary music performance through a combination of technical mastery, interpretation skills and reflective practice. To cater for the variety of specialisation within the music performance cohort, this unit comprises two separate delivery components: principal lessons and workshops, with the workshop component divided again into three specialisations: vocal, instrumental and songwriting.

PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE PRESENTATION 2

Ensemble Performance**

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Professional Ensemble Presentation 2 allows students the opportunity to apply arranging and performance techniques in a live ensemble context with attention to the components of the ensemble texture including idiomatic roles and groupings such as rhythm section, front line and vocals. This unit builds on the foundational classes in stages 1-5 of this stream by introducing a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of blending and communicating within an ensemble, and by using original arrangements.

MUSIC THEORY AND AURAL 6

Harmony and Aural Studies

UNIT DESCRIPTION

In this unit, students examine complex rhythmic, pitch and harmonic patterns in music by applying advanced analytical methods to broader harmonic and formal frameworks. Alongside discussions of theory, students develop their aural skills and understanding of melodic, harmonic and rhythmic structures through individual and group listening exercises, reading and performing notation on keyboard, dictation and aural analysis exercises. Students also explore the cultural aspects of Australian music and what it means to be a musician in Australia as they begin their professional careers.

PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO OR INDUSTRY PLACEMENT

Industry Awareness

UNIT DESCRIPTION

This subject is to be completed in the last trimester of every student's academic career at Collarts and aims to build on all skills and knowledge previously acquired throughout the course. Music Students may select from creating a professional portfolio to accompany their work or complete an industry placement in their field of choice.