Lecturer in Music Technology

Full time (job share would be considered)
Grade AC2/AC3
Permanent
Walton Hall, Milton Keynes

About the role

The post-holder will work in a team that presents and produces innovative learning resources across our music curriculum, focusing on music technology. The post-holder may also be asked to contribute to curriculum in musicology at the undergraduate and postgraduate level.

In addition to contributing to teaching within the School of Arts and Humanities, the post-holder will be expected to contribute to strategic research priorities by conducting independent research in music and making a significant contribution to the Open University's REF submission.

We welcome applications from those with teaching and/or research experience in music technology, and we expect the successful candidate to play a central role in the production of new curriculum in this subject at postgraduate and undergraduate levels.

Key responsibilities

Teaching

- To contribute to the development, planning, delivery and updating of a high-quality and successful curriculum in music at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- To prepare distance learning materials suitable for the teaching and learning methodologies used by the Open University.
- To contribute to the presentation of Open University modules. This includes briefing, debriefing and training part-time tutoring staff (associate lecturers); directing teaching and assessment (including examination); monitoring samples of marking by associate lecturers; taking part in examination boards; contributing to discussion forums enriching the student experience; and liaising with the Student Support Team.

Research and scholarship

- To enhance the research profile of the Discipline, School and Faculty through high-quality research publications suitable for inclusion in the REF.
- Working effectively and collaboratively to develop a shared research and scholarship culture.
- Generating grant income supporting the post-holder’s research.
- Attracting and supervising postgraduate research students.

Administration, Management and other duties

- Engaging with appropriate academic leadership and administrative tasks, and playing an active role within the faculty, as required by the Head of School and Head of Discipline.
Compliance with Statutory Requirements, Codes of Practice, University Policies and Health and Safety arrangements.

Person Specification

Essential

- A PhD (or equivalent) completed, or close to completed in music or a closely related subject.
- Evidence of teaching ability, and the capability and readiness to prepare printed and online teaching materials for distance learning, and to support modules in presentation through online and face-to-face tutoring, the preparation of assessment materials, and participation in Quality Assurance and examination processes.
- Enthusiasm for supporting distance learning by adults and for the application of new technologies to teaching and supporting students.
- A track record of successful research in the area of music technology, complementing existing music research at the Open University and underpinned by a good record of peer-reviewed publications, commensurate with career stage.
- Ability to work collaboratively, collegially, adaptively and responsively with others in an interdisciplinary context for teaching or research.
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written, in a variety of contexts, including the ability to offer and receive constructive criticism.
- Ability to develop a leadership role in teaching and research, commensurate with stage of career.
- Ability to plan and organise work to agreed deadlines.
- Commitment to the aims, ethos and values of the Open University including the principles and practice of equality and diversity.

Desirable

- A good honours degree in music or a closely related subject.
- Ability to read staff notation and to analyse both recorded and notated music.
- Experience of producing online and/or distance learning materials.
- Experience of supervising research students and managing research budgets.
- Evidence of applying for external funding, appropriate to career stage.
- Higher Education professional accreditation or equivalent qualification.
- Experience of working with and influencing policy makers, governmental and/or non-governmental institutions, or industry partners.
About the Unit

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences comprises:

- School of Arts & Humanities
- School of Social Sciences & Global Studies
- School of Psychology & Counselling
- Deanery including teams supporting Curriculum, Research and Enterprise, Faculty Operations and Administration

The Faculty is the largest and most diverse at The Open University, with some 50,000 students studying our modules. We boast excellent completion rates and consistently outstanding student satisfaction ratings. Noted for the strength of our interdisciplinary approaches, our scholars of international standing teach and research a very wide range of topics and themes in specific subject areas, recognized as world class or internationally excellent in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, and having a direct and profound influence on our undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

Students are supported by three Student Support Teams. These teams offer specialist study support to students undertaking our qualifications across the University. Members of academic staff, including academics based in all four nations of the UK, form part of these teams in sustaining and improving student progression and retention.

The Faculty works closely with important organisations and institutions in the UK and other parts of the world in a range of validated partnerships and collaborations. We undertake world-class, agenda setting research that tackles the most difficult challenges facing us in the 21st century, with work in numerous subject-based and interdisciplinary research groups and projects.

With c.1800 members of staff comprising academics, associate lecturers, support staff and full-time research students working across the locations of the University, combining originality and innovation in research and curriculum, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is a vibrant and exciting place to study and work.

To find out more about the Faculty’s teaching, learning and research, please visit http://fass.open.ac.uk/; to learn more about research at the OU generally, visit http://www.open.ac.uk/research/

Music at the OU

All OU Music academics are active in teaching and research. Our modules are recognised as among the best in the country, offering in-depth and up-to-date study involving a wealth of musical styles and themes. The Department was rated ‘excellent’ in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework: 94% of our submissions were rated 3* (‘internationally excellent’) or 4* (‘world-leading’).

The Music Department offers a BA (Honours) Music, a BA (Honours) in Arts and Humanities with a concentration in music, and PhD study. It plans to produce an MA in Music, and it is expected that the successful candidate will contribute to the production of this.
Undergraduate music students pursue interdisciplinary studies in the arts and humanities at Level 1 and then specialise in music at Levels 2 and 3, taking modules in music theory, musicology, music technology and music performance. Across these offerings, students engage with a wide range of art, popular and folk musics. Music academics are expected to contribute to teaching at all levels as needed.

Music research at the OU is developed through high-profile individual and collaborative projects. Specialisms in the department include performance practice, editing, film music, music iconography, music analysis, ethnomusicology, music technology, and social and cultural studies of music.

For more information, please see our website at www.open.ac.uk/Arts/music/index.html

Open University teaching involves working closely with colleagues in module teams to produce and present modules based on high-quality written, audio-visual and online materials. Reading and discussing the work of other members of the module team is central to this role. OU academics need to be able to work closely with colleagues as well as to plan and undertake independent work to deadlines. They are also expected to be open to working across traditional disciplinary boundaries, and to taking on teaching within their subject which is outside of their research specialisms.