Programme Specification

BSc (Hons) Sound Engineering and Design

Awarding Institution:	The University of Bolton		
Teaching Institution:	The University of Bolton and School of Sound Recording, Manchester		
Division and/or Faculty/Institute:	Arts and Media Technologies		
Professional accreditation	Professional body	Professional body URL	Status of graduates
	N/A	N/A	N/A
Final award(s):	BSc (Hons)		
Interim award(s)	N/A		
Exit or Fallback award(s)	Cert HE in Sound Engineering and Design Dip HE in Sound Engineering and Design		
Programme title(s)	Sound Engineering and Design		
UCAS Code	J930		
JACS Code	W371		
University Course Code(s)	Full time - CRT0024 Part time – CRT5017		
QAA Benchmark Statement(s)	Computing 2007		
Other internal and external reference points	QAA Academic Infrastructure, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and the Code of Practice UK Quality Code for Higher Education University of Bolton awards framework		
Language of study	English		
Mode of study and normal period of study	Full time – 3 years Part time – 4.5 years		

Admissions criteria

Three A/AS levels with at least one A/AS level in a science/computing area, or, National Diploma (or equivalent) in a Computing or related area.

You should also have five GCSEs at grade C or above (or equivalent) including English and Mathematics.

If English is not your first language you will also need IELTS 6.0 (or equivalent)

Additional admissions matters

Students who do not have the above qualifications but do have related industrial experience will be considered for admission to the course subject to interview and assessment.

Fitness to practise declaration
Not applicable

Aims of the programme

The principal aims of the programme are to:

1. Enable you to acquire knowledge and understanding, and develop personal attributes and master essential technical and transferable skills to enable you work in commercial and sound engineering and design or other related areas.
2. Prepare you for study in a relevant subject at master level and expand your experiences in relation to the sound engineering and design and creative industries.
3. Produce graduates with a strong academic and vocational background and who are competent in applying problem solving and decision making to meet the needs of various types of organisations within Sound Engineering and design and the creative industries
4. Enable you to demonstrate a positive disposition towards, and the skills for, life-long learning and Personal Development Planning
5. Establish key values in your skill set including the areas of entrepreneurialism, internationalisation, sustainability and social, public and ethical responsibility.

Distinctive features of the programme

Sound Engineering and design at the University of Bolton has been designed in collaboration with the School of Sound Recording (SSR). Through key developments in knowledge, research, professional tutelage and self-development students are offered choice and diversity in a supportive, market-aware environment. The programme provides a

broad range of learning and teaching opportunities in sound engineering and design practice including conceptual, technical and commercial areas.

SSR is one of the UK's leading private educators in Music Production, Studio Engineering, Live Engineering and Post Production. SSR has been working with the creative industries since its formation in the 1980's, and now has an international reputation with campuses in London and Jakarta. SSR was the first audio engineering school in the UK and first AVID Pro School in Europe, and in recent years has formed creative partnerships with the BBC, Wigwam Acoustics, STS Touring, and many venues in the Northwest. The facilities at SSR reflect real-world professional environments that provide world-class training experiences, enabling students to progress easily into employment. The purpose-built school offers over twenty-five separate learning environments, including recording studios, post production & editing facilities, a live sound venue, DJ booths, computer suites and lecture rooms. The link between the university and SSR is an exceptional example of Higher education working with industry practitioners to provide up-to-date skills, techniques and education in Sound Engineering.

There are many opportunities to work with the latest equipment through extensive practical activities using state-of-the-art, purpose-built recording studios, booths and live performance equipment. In addition to that there is a work-based assessed and supported placement module where you will find yourself working within the industry where you will get to apply the skills you have learned, interact with industry professionals and use the latest equipment in the field.

HE6 modules incorporate a high level of independent learning with greater emphasis on academic rigor. For example the final project is an opportunity for you to undertake independent focused study and research into a specific area of Sound Engineering and Design and may involve working within the industry on practical areas of research and development.

Finally, it will equip you with a broad range of professional and educative knowledge and understanding, appropriate to the needs of industry, postgraduate study or self-initiated practice (commercial or conceptual).

Programme learning outcomes
K. Knowledge and understanding On completion of the programme you will be able to demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of:
1. Contextualised historical knowledge and evaluations of sound engineering
2. Current Computer-based/ electronic production techniques using a range of software and hardware options
3. Familiarisation of types and applications of sound processing and MIDI software
4. Musical and compositional evaluation and implementation

5. Marketing and promotional techniques
C. Cognitive, intellectual or thinking skills On completion of the programme you will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
1. Assist in the evaluation of a given set of creative requirements within a set of applications
2. Interpret a specification
3. Analyse and evaluate the characteristics of the range of equipment and setups
4. Identify and solve technical problems associated with the implementation of studio design and sound production
5. Relate the knowledge and skills obtained during the placement to new subject areas and discipline

P. Practical, professional or subject-specific skills On completion of the programme you will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the physical and engineering basis of synthesis and sampling methods
2. Demonstrate practical abilities with synthesizers, MIDI protocols and sampling techniques
3. Demonstrate procedures and techniques for post production
4. Demonstrate competence in the utilisation of sound processing software appropriate to a range of multimedia applications
5. Appreciate the needs and aspirations of management, colleagues, the work force, members of the public, customers and representatives of other companies
T. Transferable, key or personal skills On completion of the programme you will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
1. Demonstrate a clear ability to work independently in the planning, management, production of work and reflection in relation to complex projects.
2. Demonstrate interpersonal skills and particularly the ability to interact effectively and collaborate with others.
3. Communicate ideas orally, visually and in written form to others.
4. Develop research skills linked to: source identification; information retrieval and

manipulation; the development of appropriate investigative procedures; and analysis of the resulting outcomes.

5. Identify personal strengths, weaknesses and development needs.

Programme structure

The BSc (Hons) Degree in Sound Engineering and Design programme is 3 years full-time and up to 4.5 years part-time. You take 17 core modules as outlined in the table below. Overall, the number and level of credits for this qualification are 120 credits at Level HE4, 120 credits at HE5 and 120 credits at HE6 – making 360 credits.

Module Code	Module title	Core/Option/ Elective (C/O/E)	Credits	Length (1, 2 or 3 periods)
SED4000	Scholarship	C	20	1
SED4101	Studio Recording Techniques	C	20	1
SED4102	Sound Engineering Principles	C	20	1
SED0143	Introduction to Digital Audio workstations	C	20	1
SED4104	Studio Mixing Techniques	C	20	1
SED4105	Sound Production for visual media	C	20	1
SED5104	Audio Post Production Techniques	C	20	1
SED5102	Advanced Studio Techniques	C	20	1
SED5105	Live Sound Engineering	C	20	1
SED5101	Synthesis and Audio Manipulation	C	20	1
SED5103	Acoustics of Sound Production for Visual Media	C	20	1
SED5106	Work-based Learning	C	20	1
SED6104	Entrepreneurial Skills for Sound Engineers	C	20	1
SED6101	Audio Mastering Techniques	C	20	1
SED6102	PA System Design	C	20	1
SED6103	Advanced Post-production Techniques	C	20	1
SED6001	Major Project	C	40	2

Learning and teaching strategies

Learning and teaching methods apply a blended style. This may include lectures, seminars, tutorials and critiques, self-directed learning, e-learning and laboratory/workshop sessions. Practical skills are acquired through technical introduction and support, workshop sessions, demonstrations and activity-based assignments. Active learning is promoted with a strong project theme. The programme does not include formal examinations but may include in-class tests within module learning and teaching.

Learning activities (KIS entry)

	Course Year HE4	HE5	HE6
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	50%	48%	40%
Guided independent study	50%	45%	60%
Placement/study abroad		7%	

Assessment strategy

Assessment is carried out at key points during teaching. Formative assessment with either verbal and/or written feedback is offered during each module. Written feedback is provided following summative assessment.

Assessment tasks are linked to the objectives of each module and are normally completed by the end of each module. Types of assessment evidence can include: assignments, projects, case studies, in-class tests, interviews and presentations.

Assessment methods (KIS entry)

	Course Year 1	2	3
Written exams	0%	0%	0%
Coursework	100%	100%	100%
Practical exams	0	0	0

Assessment regulations

- Assessment Regulations for Undergraduate Modular Programmes

Grade bands and classifications

Grade Description	Mark %	Honours Degree Classification
Work of exceptional quality	70+	i
Work of very good quality	60-69	ii.i
Work of good quality	50-59	ii.ii
Work of satisfactory quality	40-49	iii
Borderline fail	35-39	
Fail	Below 35	

Honours classification

You will normally be awarded the honours classification resulting from the application of either Rule ACM20 or Rule ACM6.

Rule ACM20

A weighted average of the marks from modules worth a total of 200 credits at Levels HE5 and HE6 combined, including the marks from modules worth no more than 80 credits at least at Level HE5 (weighted 30 percent) and marks from modules worth at least 120 credits at Level HE6 (weighted 70 percent), which represent the best marks achieved by you at those Levels.

Where the average falls unequivocally into one of the following bands: 48.00 - 49.99, 58.00 - 59.99, 68.00 - 69.99; and you have achieved marks clearly in an honours classification category higher than their average for modules worth at least 110 credits, then you will be awarded an honours degree in the classification category one higher than that indicated by your average.

Rule ACM6 (an alternative if you do not have sufficient marks at Levels HE5 and 6 to apply ACM20)

A simple average of the equally weighted marks from modules worth 120 credits at Level HE6 which represent the best marks achieved by you at that Level.

Where the average falls unequivocally into one of the following bands: 48.00 – 49.99, 58.00 – 59.99, 68.00 – 69.99; and you have achieved marks clearly in an honours classification category higher than their average for modules worth at least 70 credits, then you will be awarded an honours degree in the classification category one higher than that indicated by their average.

Where you have marks available for fewer than 120 credits at Level HE6, honours classification shall normally be based **solely** on a simple average of the available marks for modules at Level HE6, subject to there being marks for a **minimum of 60 credits awarded by the University**. **Upgrading of the honours classification will not normally be available where there are marks available for fewer than 120 credits at Level HE6**, unless this is explicitly approved.

Role of external examiners

External examiners are appointed for all programmes of study. They oversee the assessment process and their duties include: approving assessment tasks, reviewing assessment marks, attending assessment boards and reporting to the University on the assessment process.

Support for student learning

- The programme is managed by a programme leader
- Induction programme introduces the student to the University and their programme
- Each student has a personal tutor, responsible for support and guidance
- Personal Development Planning (PDP) integrated into all programmes
- Feedback on formative and summative assessments
- A Student Centre providing a one-stop shop for information and advice
- University support services include housing, counselling, financial advice, careers and a disability
- A Chaplaincy
- Library and IT services
- Student Liaison Officers attached to each Faculty
- The Students' Union advice services
- Faculty and Programme Handbooks which provide information about the programme and University regulations
- The opportunity to develop skills for employment
- English language support for International students
- Support for work-related opportunities, placements and practical industrial experience
- Support for employability and preparation for employment

Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality of learning opportunities

- Programme committees with student representation
- Module evaluations by students
- Students surveys, e.g. National Student Survey (NSS)
- Annual quality monitoring and action planning through Programme Quality Enhancement Plans (PQEPs), Data Analysis Report (DARs) Subject Annual Self Evaluation Report (SASERs), Faculty Quality Enhancement Plans (FQEPs), University Quality Enhancement Plan (UQEP)
- Peer review/observation of teaching

- Professional development programme for staff
- External examiner reports
- Individual student learning outcomes for placement activities agreed between employer, student and mentor

Other sources of information

Student portal http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Students/Home.aspx
Students Union http://www.ubsu.org.uk/
Faculty or similar Handbook
http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Students/FacultyofArtsandMediaTechnologiesHandbook.pdf
Programme Handbook (add link)
Student Entitlement Statement (add link)
Module database http://modules.bolton.ac.uk
Moodle http://elearning.bolton.ac.uk
External examiners reports
http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Quality/QAEContents/ExternalExaminersReports/Home.aspx
University Careers Service
http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Careers/Home.aspx

Document control

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Learning outcomes map

Module title	Mod Code	Status C/ O/E	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5		T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	
Level 4																										
Scholarship	SED4000	C	DT		DTA							DTA	DT						D		DT	D	DTA	DTA	D	
Studio Recording Techniques	SED4101	C		D	T	D	DTA			D	TD	D	D		DTA	TA		D	D		D		D			
Sound Engineering Principles	SED4102	C	D	D	DA	DT	D		D	D	DT		D		D	D	D	DT	D		DT	DT	DT	DT	D	
Introduction to Digital Audio Workstations	SED4103	C	D	DT	DT	DT	DT		D	DT	DT	DT			D	DT	DT	DTA	D		DT	DT	DTA	DT	DT	
Studio Mixing Techniques	SED4104	C	D	DTA		DT	DT		DT	DTA	DT	DTA	D		DT	DT	DT	DTA			DT	DT	DTA	DTA	D	
Sound Production for visual media	SED4105	C	DA	D	DT	DT	DT		DT	DTA	D	DT	D		D		D	DTA	D		DTA	DT	DT	DT	D	
Level 5																										
Audio Post production Techniques	SED5104	C	DT	DTA	D		D		D	D	DT	D	D				DTA	D	DTA		DTA	DT	DTA		DT	
Advanced Studio Techniques	SED5102	C	DT	D	DT	DT	DT		DTA	DT	DTA	D	D		DT	DTA		DT	D		DTA		DT		D	
Live Sound Engineering	SED5105	C	DT	D	DT	DTA	DT		DT	DT	DTA	D			DTA	DT		DTA	D		DTA	DT			DT	
Synthesis and Audio Manipulation	SED5101	C	DT	DT		DT	D			DTA	D	DTA	D		DT			DT	D		DTA		DT	DTA		
Acoustics of Sound Production for Visual Media	SED5103	C	DT	D	DTA	DT	D		DT	DT	DT	DTA			DTA	DT	D	DTA	D		D	DTA	DT	DTA	DT	
Work-based Learning	SED5106	C	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DTA		DT	DTA	DTA	DT	DA		DT	DT	DTA		DA		DTA	D	DTA	DT	D	
Level 6																										
Entrepreneurial Skills for Sound Engineers	SED6104	C	DT				DTA		D	DT		DT							DAT		DTA		DTA	DTA	**D**	
Audio Mastering Techniques	SED6101		DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT		DT	D	DT	D	D		D	D		DT	D		DT	DT		DTA	D	
PA System Design	SED6102	C	DT	DT	DT	DTA	D		DT	DT	DTA	DT	D		DTA	DTA			D		D	D	DT	DT	D	
Advanced Post-production Techniques	SED6103	C	DT	DTA			DT		D	D	DT	D	D			D	DTA	DT	D		DT		DT	DT	D	
Major Project	SED6001	C	D	DT	D	D	D		DT	DT	DT	DTA	D		DTA						DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	

K. Knowledge and understanding P. Practical, professional and subject specific skills C. Cognitive, Intellectual and thinking skills T. Transferable, key or personal skills (Developed = D, Taught = T, Assessed = A)

Module listing

Module title	Mod Code	New? ✓	Level	Credits	Type	Core /Option/El	Pre-requisite module	Assessment 1			Assessment 2			Assessment 3		
								Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item	Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item	Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item
Scholarship	SED4000	New	4	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Studio Recording Techniques	SED4101	New	4	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Sound Engineering Principles	SED4102	New	4	20	Stan	C		CW	40		PRAC	60	Y			
Introduction to Digital Audio workstations	SED4103	New	4	20	Stan	C		PRAC	40		PRAC	60	Y			
Studio Mixing Techniques	SED4104	New	4	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Sound Production for visual media	SED4105	New	4	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Audio Post production Techniques	SED5104	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Advanced Studio Techniques	SED5102	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Live Sound Engineering	SED5105	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Synthesis and Audio Manipulation	SED5101	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Acoustics of Sound Production for Visual Media	SED5103	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Work-based Learning	SED5106	New	5	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Entrepreneurial Skills for Sound Engineers	SED6104	New	6	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Audio Mastering Techniques	SED6101	New	6	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
PA System Design	SED6102	New	6	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Advanced Post-production Techniques	SED5103	New	6	20	Stan	C		CW	100	Y						
Major Project	SED6001	New	6	40	Proj	C		PROJ	100	Y						

Type = DISS (Dissertation); FLDW (Fieldwork), INDS (Independent study); OTHR (Other); PLAC (Placement); PRAC (Practical); PROJ (Project); STAN (Standard); WBL (work-based learning)

Assessment = EX (Written Exam); CW (Coursework); PRA (Practical)

Bolton Key Core Curriculum requirements

Module Title	Module Code	C/O/E	Employability											Bolton Values		
			PDP	Communication	Team work	Organisation & Planning	Numeracy	Problem solving	Flexibility & adaptability	Action planning	Self awareness	Initiative	Personal impact & confidence	Inter-nationalisation	Environmental sustainability	Social, public and ethical responsibility
Scholarship	SED400	C	TA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DT	DT	DT	DT	D	D	DT	DT	DTA
Studio Recording Techniques	SED4101	C		DA	D	D,	T	D, A	D, A		D	D, A	D, A	D	D	D, A
Sound Engineering Principles	SED4102	C	D	DT	D	D,T	DA	D,T	D	D,T	D	D	D	D	D	DT
Introduction to Digital Audio Workstations	SED4103	C	D	DT	D, T	D, T	D	D, T	D,T	D, T	D	D	D	D	D,T,A	DT
Studio Mixing Techniques	SED4104	C		D	D	T		D	D						DT	D
Sound Production for visual media	SED4105	C	D	DT	D	D,T	D	D,T	D	D	D	D	D	D	D,T,A	DT
Audio Post production Techniques	SED4104	C	D	D	D	DT	D	DT	DT	DT	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DT	DT
Advanced Studio Techniques	SED5102	C	D	DT	D	DT	DT	DT	DT	DTA	D	D	D	DT	DTA	DTA
Live Sound Engineering	SED5105	C	D	D	D	DT	DTA	DTA	D	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT
Synthesis and Audio Manipulation	SED5101	C		DTA		DT		DT	DT		D	D		DT	D	DT
Acoustics of Sound Production for Visual Media	SED5103	C	D	D	DA	DTA	DTA	DT	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT	DT	DTA	DTA
Work-based Learning	SED5106	C	DA	D, T	D	DTA	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT
Entrepreneurial Skills for Sound Engineers	SED6104	C	DA	DTA	D	DT		DT	DT		D	D		DT	D	DTA
Audio Mastering Techniques	SED6101	C	DT	DT	DTA	DT	D	DT	DT	DT	D	D	D	DT	DTA	DT
PA System Design	SED6102	C	D	D		DT	D	DT	D	DT	D	DT	DTA	D	DT	D
Advanced Post-production	SED6103	C	D	D	D	DTA	D	DTA		DT	DTA	DTA	D	D	DTA	DT

Techniques															
Major Project	SED6001	C	D	A		DTA		D	D	DTA	D	D A	D	D A	D A	DA

Complete the grid using the following (Developed = D, Taught = T, Assessed = A)