



Programme syllabus

Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences
School of Cultural Sciences

Musik- och ljuddesignprogrammet, 120 högskolepoäng
Design of Music and Sound Programme, 120 credits

Level

First Level

Establishment of Programme

Established by Organisational Committee 2009-03-26

Date of Ratification

Approved by Committee for First and Second Cycle under the Faculty Board of Humanities and Social Sciences 2009-06-17

The programme syllabus is valid from spring semester 2012

Revised 2010-12-07

Prerequisites

General entry requirements.

Description of Programme

The Design of Music and Sound Programme aims to provide students with a good knowledge of the music scene and prepare them for the administrative and practical positions within both the public and private music industry. The programme also aims to provide students with good practical and theoretical knowledge in five profile areas within the subjects; Electrical Engineering, Musicology, Sound Production, Information Technology as well as Business Administration. Students should develop the ability for independent analyses and critical reflection. On completion of their studies, each student should be able to lead a project from a concept to a finished music production. The programme mainly deals with popular music but is even oriented towards classical music genres.

Objectives

Knowledge and Understanding

In order to obtain a University Diploma, students should

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding within their main field of study, including familiarity of the fields scientific basis as well as knowledge of some applicable methods within the field.

Skills and Abilities

In order to obtain a University Diploma, students should

- demonstrate the ability to seek, compile, and critically evaluate information in order to formulate answers to well-defined issues within their main field of study,
- demonstrate the ability to account for, and discuss, their knowledge with different groups, and
- demonstrate the skills needed to independently work with certain tasks within the field at which the education is aimed.

Judgement and Approach

In order to obtain a University Diploma, students should

- demonstrate knowledge of, and have the prerequisites for dealing with, ethical issues within their main field of study.

Programme-specific objectives

On completion of the programme, students should

- have knowledge of the physical properties of sound and the functions of listening, to create, realise and present sound and music productions for specified target groups, as well as describe and analyse sound and music productions
- be familiar with, and have acquired a readiness to deal with, current changes in the production conditions of the media business, especially when it comes to the influence that audio technology has had on them
- both verbally and in writing, have the ability to account for the ways in which a given piece of equipment can be used in a recording session by describing possibilities, limitations as well as appropriate working methods
- have the ability to evaluate their own knowledge within the field of sound design, and identify the need of knowledge for continued learning
- both verbally and in writing, have the ability to communicate sound and music design to others within the business, both national and international
- independently be able to initiate, plan, manage, carry out, demonstrate as well as document sound and music productions within many areas of application
- have the ability to describe and independently evaluate sound and music productions technologically, aesthetically and contextually.

Content

This education is carried out in cooperation with Högskolan Dalarna (HDa), Mid Sweden University (MIUN) and Linnaeus University (LnU) and is mainly run as a distance programme with tuition via the Internet. Joint gatherings may occur. Campus-based, on-site tuition may also be a feature of a chosen specialisation.

The students are encouraged to follow and participate in the research and development of design of music and sound by participating in different kinds of cultural events.

Programme Overview

The programme consists of 120 credits and the main field of study is musicology with specialization in sound design.

Programme Courses

Half speed studies

Semester 1

Introductory course in music and sound design, 7.5 credits – (MIUN)

The course aims at providing a broad introduction to music and sound design, with a historical aspect. The course provides samples of all areas included in the education

programme.
GIN

Audio Technology I, 7.5 credits – (MIUN)

The course deals with fundamental electronic learning, analogue and digital inputs and outputs in various sound and peripherals. A comprehensive run-through is carried out on signals and the way they are handled from microphone to speaker in a typical studio where the functioning of incoming components is given special emphasis.

GIN

Semester 2

Audio Technology II, 7.5 credits – (LnU)

This course deals with microphone techniques in professional studios, sound editing, orientation in mixing and mastering.

GIN

The Music and Music Life of the Present Day, 7.5 credits – (LnU)

This course gives a broad picture of modern music, both in diversity of genre and the arenas where they are performed. It aims at providing basic insights into the historical, social, aesthetical and communicative dimensions of music.

GIN

Semester 3

Theory of Sound, 7.5 credits – (MIUN)

This course deals with the origin of sound as well as the propagation of acoustic environments. The influence of room acoustics on recording results is given special emphasis.

GIN

Music Production Analysis, 7.5 credits – (HDa)

After going through a number of analytical methods, students analyse and mould an existing music production (“sound-alike”). The course contains elements with listening exercises.

GIN

Semester 4

Meeting in Different Genres, 7.5 credits – (HDa)

After going through genre concepts, the student is introduced to music and musicians from various environments and cultures, first in literature and existing recordings, and later in a field work and through their own record production.

GIN

Music Creation, 7.5 credits – (LnU)

The creative process, as well as the analysis of the structure and form of genre-specific tracks and the analysis of texts and melodies.

GIN

Semester 5

Communication and Sound, 7.5 credits – (MIUN)

This course illustrates how sound is utilized in different forms of communication, partly from a traditional media-communication perspective and partly from examples and studies of the ways in which sound is utilized today.

GIN

Business Administration for the Music Business, 7.5 credits – (Lnu)

This course contains the following elements: Calculation, Budget, Marketing, Organisation Theories and Business Forms.

GIN

Semester 6

The Music Business, 7.5 credits – (LnU)

This course deals with copyright seen from the arranger's, composer's and musician's perspectives as well as contract situations between the corporation, publisher, composer and musician. Presentation of various professions and organisations within the business. PR and releases.

G1N

Sound Design to Moving Pictures, 7.5 credits – (HDA)

This course discusses theoretical and practical perspectives in applying sound design to moving pictures. Students record their own sound to use in a production assignment concerning track laying a prescribed sound sequence.

G1N

Semester 7

Studio Recording 7.5 credits – (HDA)

This course deals with the prerequisites and procedures of studio recording. Central to this course is multichannel recording of music with acoustic instruments preferably. Students plan, carry out and present a production up until the mastering stage.

G1N

Music Production in Practice 7.5 credits – (LnU, HDA, MIUN)

Students carry out a production project that is strongly connected to working life: carried out at a company (or equivalent) or by themselves as an independent project. While carrying out their projects, students should strive towards an understanding for the problems and solutions associated with the profession. A report is written in connection with the work placement education. (studies may be carried out abroad). It is the student's own responsibility to seek work placement within the music, and sound, business, that is, unless they wish to carry out an independent project.

G1F

Semester 8

Degree Project, 15 credits – (LnU, HDA, MIUN)

Recording project with project description, aim, diary, analysis of results etc. Documented in a report accompanied by digital audio documents.

G1E

All courses, with the exception of Business Administration, are included in the main field of study.

Full time studies

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External Contacts

Regular contact with the music business is made through guest lecturers, work placement as well as regular study visits. Throughout the education, the programme has ongoing contact with representatives from the believed occupational groups of the future – in our case the music business's different actors, both within the public and private sectors.

Studies Abroad

During the programme's third semester, students are given the opportunity to carry out a five-week work placement abroad that is equivalent to 7.5 credits. Applications for studies abroad should be made to the programme co-ordinator.

Quality Development

A joint body – Programme Board, with representatives from each university's personnel, students as well as representatives from the music business are all responsible for the quality and development of the programme. We aim to have a gender-equal representation.

Regular evaluations of the programme are carried out and continuous contact between managerial bodies and students is held. At the end of every course, a written course evaluation is performed and compiled into a report. The evaluation report is filed and stored according to departmental regulations and is presented to the programme board and cooperating boards. Information regarding evaluations is also presented to the institutional bodies, committees and study programmes board. Evaluations are the most important means of revising and developing the programme. In cases of major change, a reference group, with representatives from the music business, is called in. Compilations of course and programme evaluations are stored by the seat of learning.

Degree Certificate

Following completion of studies fulfilling the requirements as stated in the Higher Education Ordinance degree ordinance and the local degree ordinance for Linnaeus University, the student can apply for the award of the degree.

Students who have pursued studies in the Design of Music and Sound may obtain the following degree:

University Diploma with specialisation in Design of Music and Sound

The degree certificate is bilingual (Swedish/English). The degree certificate will be accompanied by a Diploma Supplement (English).

Other Information

In order to carry out studies, the student must have access to a computer with a sound card and software sequencers as well as a broadband internet connection. The student will also need to have mobile recording equipment at his/her disposal. The latter means having access to microphones with cables and a laptop computer.