

Artefact Creation

First Class [80%-100%]

Upper first-class work is characterised by an outstanding degree of independent research and distinctive originality. Work of this standard is in full command of its topic and capable of overturning orthodox positions or received opinion with strikingly new analyses or innovative creation. Upper first-class work is rare and exceptional; it will be a sustained demonstration of intellectual rigour, technical excellence, creative and imaginative flair and the highest standards of achievement and research proper to the field of study.

Work at this level is exceptional and displays consistent deployment of all qualities discussed here. The work is comparable to existing exemplars of the repertoire or displays outstanding originality. Work of this standard far exceeds module learning outcomes and will display some or all of the following characteristics:

- Creative work that negotiates the course requirements with **exceptional and consistent imagination and intelligence**.
 - **Confident and consistent development** and deployment of creative strategies to produce **innovative, stimulating and engaging** work.
 - **Impeccable organisation** of the portfolio of work.
 - Mastery of appropriate **technical resources**.
 - **Clear and well-articulated conceptual frameworks**.
 - A **broad understanding** of current **techniques, theory and context**.
 - **Sustained and critical self-evaluation**.
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First Class [70%-79%]

First-class work is characterised by independent learning and freshness of approach. Work of this standard fully explores the topic and is not afraid to challenge orthodox positions or received opinion where relevant. First-class work is outstanding and displays a selection or combination of the qualities of intellectual rigour, technical excellence, creative and imaginative flair and very high standards of achievement and research proper to the field of study.

Work at this level displays a sophisticated level of engagement with the material and substantial attainment and expansion of pathway and module learning outcomes. Work at this level will display some or all of the following characteristics:

- Creative work that consistently negotiates the course requirements with **imagination and intelligence**.
- **Sustained development** and deployment of creative strategies to produce innovative, stimulating and engaging work.
- **Careful and cogent organisation** of the portfolio of work.
- Informed, confident and imaginative **application** of appropriate **technical resources**.

- **Clear** and **well-articulated conceptual frameworks**.
 - A **broad understanding** of current **techniques, theory** and **context**.
 - **Sustained** and **critical self-evaluation**.
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Upper Second Class [60%-69%]

Work in this class demonstrates some of the qualities that define First Class work but not in as sustained a manner. An Upper Second Class mark denotes very good work, but it is not intellectually, practically or creatively outstanding.

A criterion often used to distinguish Upper Second from Lower Second work is the quality and extent of detailed attention to the primary works studied on the module. An abstract or generalised piece of work must be of very high quality to gain an Upper Second mark.

Work at this level will display clear engagement with course aims and substantial attainment of learning outcomes and will display some or all of the following characteristics:

- **Strong musical creation techniques** systematically deployed.
 - **Clear**, accurate and sustained address to the given or self imposed **musical brief**.
 - A **good**, knowledgeable use of **musically creative techniques**.
 - A **respectable** command of relevant **theory** and **context**.
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Lower Second Class [50%-59%]

Work in this class is of average to good, and not merely passing, Honours standard.

Work at this level will display acceptable engagement with course aims and satisfactory attainment of learning outcomes, and will display some or all of the following characteristics:

- A **reasonable**, but sometimes inconsistent, demonstration of analytical and **musically creative approaches**, but of a less developed and enquiring standard than work of an Upper-second Class standard.
 - A **cogent** approach to the **brief**, but probably missing some key elements.
 - The musically creative work is **not fully realised**. The work often depends rather heavily on **imitation** of known exemplars or class demonstrations.
 - A **satisfactory** command of **relevant theory and context**.
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Third Class [40%-49%]

Although weak, Third Class work is of passing Honours standard and should not be confused with failed work. There is little engagement with course aims and limited attainment of learning outcomes.

Work at this level will display some, or all, of the characteristics listed here.

- **Limited** power of **musical analysis** and awareness of **musical structure**.
- An **inconsistent focus** on the topic.
- An **evasive**, or poorly directed, **response to the brief**, i.e. a piece of creative work is

submitted which does not apply directly to the concepts explained but responds rather to the student's technical limitation.

- The work is **under-developed** and often shows **significant reliance** on known examples and class demonstrations.
 - An **ill-considered** and **repetitious** use of **similar creative ideas**.
 - A **limited** understanding of the **musical brief** with little detailed reference to it.
 - A marginal command of **relevant theory and context**.
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Fail [30%-39%]

Although inadequate at degree level, work within the mark range of 30%-39% qualifies as a marginal Fail. Work at this level displays little or no engagement with course aims and failure to attain most learning outcomes. The 30%-39% range is used carefully to indicate the extent of the failure and the work's closeness to being of passing quality. In some circumstances, compensation rules may apply (i.e. resubmission of work or retaking the module may not be obligatory).

Failed work at this level will show some, or all, of the weaknesses listed here.

- Feeble **musical content**.
 - **A lack of focus** on the given creative brief.
 - **A failure to create acceptably** in response to the given brief.
 - **Very limited musical concept**; the work contains severe musical inconsistencies.
 - An **ineffective use** of **practical and/or technical procedures** that results in media that may not function or be able to be realised properly
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Fail [0%-29%]

Work within the range 0%-29% is very weak and clearly fails to reach degree standard. Typically, course aims are ignored and no attempt is made to attain any learning outcomes. A mark of 0% will usually denote a failure to submit work at all. Work within this range cannot be compensated. Depending on individual circumstances and the requirements of the module, failed work at this level must either be resubmitted or the module retaken.

Failed work at this level will show some, or all, of the serious weaknesses listed here.

- Little or no **musical content**.
- Little or no **focus on the given creative brief**.
- **No musical concept**; the work contains severe musical inconsistencies.
- A **negligible use** of **practical and/or technical procedures** that results in media in cannot function or be able to be realised properly