

Open University

Type of Programmes:

Ethnomusicology is taught as an integral part of the Open University's music curriculum at undergraduate and MA levels. Supervision for research degrees (MPhil/PhD), either part-time or full time, is also available.

The Open University music department sees ethnomusicology as a vital element in its curriculum. At undergraduate and taught postgraduate level our approach is to integrate all aspects of music study, so that all music students benefit from teaching in ethnomusicology. Conversely, it is not possible to specialise exclusively in ethnomusicology until the MA dissertation. Music courses can be freely combined with those offered by other areas, e.g., Social Sciences, Education, Languages.

We offer supervision in any area of ethnomusicology for doctoral study: where research areas lie outside the specialist areas of our staff, students are occasionally co-supervised by specialist scholars in other OU departments or at other institutions.

Description of programmes and relevant modules including ethnomusicological material:

Taught within the Faculty of Arts/ Department of Music:

Undergraduate:

A179 Start Listening to Music (Level 1 10-point module)

A150 Voices and Texts (Level 1 30-point module)

A224 Inside Music (Level 2 60-point module)

AA302 From composition to performance: Musicians at work (Level 3 60-point module)

A342 Working with music (Level 3 60-point module, available from October 2015)

Postgraduate:

A new 180-point MA programme will launch in October 2014

Student numbers:

Undergraduate: approximately 800 students per annum on the combined Level 2 and Level 3 courses

MA: approximately 100 students per annum

Special resources:

The OU library holds a selection of ethnomusicological books and videos; our main strength, however, is an excellent provision of online sources, backed up by an efficient inter-library loans service.

Specialist research facilities at the OU include a new flexible 60m² performance space fully equipped for audio and video recording, with an associated research laboratory including video editing (Avid), audio editing (ProTools), and observational analysis workstations (opened 2009).

Recent and current funded projects:

AHRC What is Black British Jazz?

Staff:

Dr Byron Dueck. Working on AHRC Black British Jazz project. Research interests: indigenous music and dance in Canada; jazz in the UK; popular music in Cameroon; musical publics and counterpublics; rhythm, meter, motion, and collective experience; musical representations of multiculturalism; public festivity and national imaginaries; metapragmatic approaches to music.

Financial support:

The OU Arts Faculty runs a competitive scheme for fully-funded postgraduate studentships. Ethnomusicology students are eligible for these and have been successful in the past. Funding for research expenses is available for full- and part-time research students.

For further information:

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