

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MUSIC

1. Background

The Postgraduate Diploma in Music will provide a pathway for music graduates with a 3 year degree from other institutions in Melbourne, nationally and internationally to gain an Honours degree and thereby become eligible to apply for postgraduate courses in the Faculty of Music.

Postgraduate selection processes each year identify a growing cohort of graduate students who wish to be considered for selection into the Master of Music Studies or Master of Music but who do not satisfy the prerequisite of a 4 year undergraduate degree. The Postgraduate Diploma will constitute a fourth or honours year of study, enabling successful students to apply for our postgraduate degree courses. In Australia, 3 year Bachelor of Music courses are offered at Newcastle, Adelaide, Southern Queensland, Griffith, Monash and Tasmania Universities, as well as at the University of Western Australia, the Australian National University, the Victorian College of the Arts, the Australian Catholic University and the Melba Conservatorium.

The Faculty accepts applications for postgraduate study from all of these institutions, particularly for specialisation in musicology from Go8 members, and for performance and composition from the VCA and the (now defunct) 3 year B Mus at LaTrobe. In the case of New Zealand applications for postgraduate places, particularly in our ethnomusicology and performance specialisations, come from 3 year graduates from the Universities of Auckland, Waikato, Massey, Victoria at Wellington and Otago. Similarly, the Faculty's main feeder institutions into the B Mus in Asia offer a 3 year B Mus - in Singapore, Sedaya International College and La Salle College of the Arts, in Malaysia the Malaysian Institute of Arts, and in Hong Kong the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and Hong Kong University. The Faculty anticipates a shift in international applications from undergraduate to postgraduate courses as local suppliers of a B Mus in Asia gather strength and quality. The Postgraduate Diploma in Music will provide a pathway for such students into the Master of Music Studies and Master of Music degrees.

In 2004 Faculty of Music undergraduate and postgraduate courses were benchmarked by the Dean of the Faculty against the Universities of Nottingham, Edinburgh,, British Columbia, Virginia and McGill. Only those which offered a 4 year or 3+1 undergraduate course also offered articulation into Masters degrees (Edinburgh and British Columbia).

2. Entry Requirements

1. The Selection Committee will evaluate the applicant's ability to successfully pursue the course using the following criteria –
 - An undergraduate degree with a major in Music and at least an average H2B (70%) grade across the major, or
 - At least 5 years equivalent, documented, professional experience.
2. Selection into the performance or instrumental/vocal streams of the Diploma will be subject to a satisfactory audition. Selection into the composition stream of the postgraduate diploma will be subject to the satisfactory assessment of a composition folio.
3. The Selection Committee may conduct interviews, call for written work, referee reports and employer references to elucidate any matters to do with selection.

3. Course/Program Structure

The Postgraduate Diploma in Music is a course of study of 100 points (one year full time or equivalent). The Diploma is available in a number of streams – Performance, Practical Study, Instrumental/Vocal Teaching, Composition, Early Music and Musicology/Ethnomusicology. The result of the practical audition will determine whether the student is admitted to the Performance stream or to the Practical Study stream.

4. Availability of course

The course will be available to fee-paying overseas and Australian students.