

School of Music
and Theatre, UCC



Graduate Studies

Formed in 2010 from UCC's long-established Department of Music and Department of Drama and Theatre Studies, the School of Music and Theatre brings together many shared interests and intersections in research and creativity to offer a rich range of postgraduate degree and diploma programmes.



UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland



Our research profile: Drama and Theatre Studies

The Department of Drama and Theatre Studies supports an active research culture which fosters innovative practices in the investigation and creation of performance and its applications. Our core staff of scholar-practitioners have been nationally and internationally recognised for their work across a range of research specialisms which involve publications in actor/performer training, devising processes, textual analysis, dramaturgy, physical theatre, and contemporary Irish theatre/performance. The Department encourages interdisciplinary work and is able to draw on the further expertise of colleagues in theatre/drama-in-education, dramatherapy, music, and contemporary European theatre. We also encourage applications from candidates whose primary degree may not be in the field of Drama and Theatre Studies.

Our research profile: Music

Postgraduate students can expect to join a thriving research culture in the Department of Music. Collectively committed to a diversity of music traditions, scholarly methods and forms of creativity, our staff are internationally recognized for their innovative research. The Department's musicologists and ethnomusicologists apply a broad range of scholarly methods (including source studies, ethnography, critical/cultural theory, interdisciplinary studies and practice as research) to Western art music, traditional musics, non-Western musics and music in mixed-media forms such as film and theatre. Progressive in their approach, the Department's composers create music across a range of idioms and for diverse environments, specializing in mixed media, interactive new media, experimental music, sound installation and soundscapes.

Our PhD and MPhil programmes in research and composition

At UCC, advanced and original work may be undertaken for the doctoral degree of PhD (a minimum of three years) or the MPhil (normally two years). Well-qualified candidates who do not already hold a relevant masters degree may be approved for provisional PhD registration (known as 'PhD track').

In the case of Music: the PhD or MPhil may be undertaken in either composition (leading to a portfolio of work) or research in musicology or ethnomusicology (leading to a dissertation). We welcome proposals involving interdisciplinary research, practice as research, or any of the specialisms of our academic staff—notably opera studies, source studies, traditional musics and ethnographic studies, and music in popular culture and film. See our research profile (overleaf).

In the case of Drama and Theatre Studies: research for PhD or MPhil can be submitted as a combination of practice and dissertation or solely as a dissertation. We also welcome proposals involving interdisciplinary research and practice-as-research and in a range of contemporary theatre practices including: physical theatre and somatics, devising, training, playwrighting, and Applied Theatre. See our research profile (overleaf).

MA degrees and other one-year programmes

Our MA degrees are 90-credit programmes each lasting a full calendar year (some may be taken part-time over two years). The Postgraduate Diploma and Higher Diploma in Arts are 60-credit programmes completed in two semesters, from September to May.

MA in Music and Cultural History

An alternative to conventional postgraduate programmes in musicology, the MA in Music and Cultural History draws on the diverse expertise of internationally renowned scholars to combine the very best of traditional and contemporary scholarly practice. Students are presented with the opportunity to acquire and develop core musicological skills, including research techniques and the critical editing of music. But they are also introduced to some of the most exciting developments in recent music scholarship, including explorations of politics, gender and sexuality in music; the interaction of music with other media; and the new links being formed between musicology and other disciplines like film studies, cultural studies and philosophy.

MA in Ethnomusicology

In this innovative MA programme, both scholarship and performance skills are developed in the study of a diverse range of music cultures from around the world. Through seminars, students explore, in depth, ethnomusicological theories about the relationships between music and culture, performance studies theories and ethnographic field research methods. They encounter new traditions and hone their performance skills in our ensembles, which include Irish traditional music, Javanese gamelan, Ghanaian drumming, American shape-note singing, Indian sitar and others. By conducting their individual original research projects, they develop independent research and writing skills under the supervision of our international ethnomusicological staff.

MA in Composition

Designed to be highly inclusive, this MA programme encourages students to develop their compositional language no matter what their stylistic starting-points. By studying a large variety of compositional techniques and ideas from many musical and other artistic traditions, students greatly expand the range and diversity of their compositional methods, learn about exciting, contemporary artistic practices and broaden the scope of their creative world. The MA embraces many forms of creative sound-based work, including conventionally or unconventionally notated pieces, electronic music of many genres, experimental music, improvisation, performance art, sound art, music theatre, installations, visual art with a sound component (especially video), and computer programs for the realisation of musical concepts.

MA in Drama and Theatre Studies

This stimulating MA programme allows participants to choose whether to specialize in *Advanced Theatre Practice*, or *Applied Theatre*, or *The Playwright in Contemporary Theatre* whilst following a core course in current research methodologies in the discipline. In all three specialist zones there is an emphasis on reflexive practice, and each offers the possibility of developing individual research projects under the supervision of research-active staff of international standing. Recent graduates have developed projects in drama and education, theatre production and performance, play translation, performance and disability, and theatre and new technologies.

Postgraduate Diploma in Drama and Theatre Studies

This 60-credit programme, which runs from September to May, offers an opportunity to pursue a postgraduate qualification without the higher level of independent research required for the MA. The PGDip entails intensive coursework in two out of three areas of specialisation: *Applied Theatre and Drama*, *Advanced Theatre Practice*, and *The Playwright in Contemporary Theatre*.

Higher Diploma in Arts (Music)

Taken over two semesters from September to May (fulltime in one year or part-time over two years), this programme allows graduates in subjects other than Music to take modules equivalent to the final year of a first degree in Music. Thus it is a conversion course that can lead subsequently, for successful students, to eligibility for entering masters and doctoral programmes in Music.

Further information

Music: see www.music.ucc.ie/gs

Drama and Theatre Studies: see www.ucc.ie/drama

General advice on postgraduate studies at UCC: www.ucc.ie/en/study/postgrad

Applications

Formal applications are made online at www.pac.ie/ucc. However, you are encouraged to discuss your interests with us first: see contact details below.

Contact us

Enquiries concerning Music programmes may be mailed to music@ucc.ie, or made by telephone to +353 21 4904530.

In the case of Drama and Theatre Studies, please direct enquiries concerning the Postgraduate Diploma or the MA to Dr Bernadette Cronin (b.cronin@ucc.ie) and those regarding the PhD or MPhil to Dr Franc Chamberlain (franc.chamberlain@gmail.com).