Module Code and Title: AF230005D Creative Music Programming

Anglia Ruskin Department: Music and Performing Arts

Location of Delivery: Cambridge

Academic Year: 2007/8   **Semester:** One and Two

Enrolment Numbers: 16

Module Leader & Tutor: Richard Hoadley

Student Achievement

The overall mean mark for this module was 48.1% (A = 2, B = 2, C = 3, D = 6. Deferred = 3)
The overall standard was disappointing. Although an improvement on last year, too many students failed, or didn't attempt some tasks (especially SuperCollder-based tasks).

This needs close monitoring next year, including assessment of how the students respond to the tasks requiring understanding of SuperCollider, and if necessary appropriate modification of the tasks. This has already occurred for this delivery and I will continue to monitor results next year.

Feedback from Students

The overall student satisfaction rating for this module was 78%,.
All categories scored 64% or higher, demonstrating that students felt supported during their learning process. The relatively low score of 64% for assessment clarity indicates the difficulty of operating complex task-based assessment systems.

Written comments were mostly positive, but with a few adverse comments concerning the complexity of the assessment, as is indicated in the statistics (although even in this regard the response is very positive).

Module Leader/Tutor's Reflection on Delivery of the Module, including Response to Feedback from Students

Even though the number of tasks has been reduced from eighteen to twelve there was still very poor take-up. If one removes the tasks from the equations, the module average changes from 45% to 56%. Further analysis demonstrates that the tasks using SuperCollider were half as successful in terms of marks received than MaxMSP tasks and two thirds as successful as Jitter tasks.
See paragraph 2 of the section on student achievement for more details about this.

Developments during the current year or planned for next year

Further development of the task/project system. This could include negative marks for non-submission rather than positive marks for submission. Selecting the best six of twelve task marks may also be considered. It would be difficult to reduce the number of tasks further. There will be more concentration on the musicality of composition-based projects. There will be an Investigation of different criteria for composition/technique-based projects/approaches.

External Examiner's Comments

The examiner was happy with the content, marking and feedback, but commented on the lack of an 'engineering' focus for the module. While most students find this module rather 'technical' already, this possibility will be investigated for the 2008/9 delivery