UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

CREATIVE CODING PRACTICE

Module Code: U2573

Level: 5

Assessment Brief

Module Coordinator/Lecturer:

Email: mark.sexton@port.ac.uk

Telephone: 5476

Room: 2ⁿᵈ Floor Middle Street

1 - GENERAL ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment 1 (75%) Main Project

Submission Deadline: 12ᵗʰ December 2019 (11.55pm online submission)

Short Description: During the course of the module you will explore a wide range of ideas, concepts and techniques. This assignment is the major assessed component of the module and gives you the opportunity to explore self-selected compositional techniques, concepts or processes in much greater depth.

Assessment 2 (25%): Essay

Submission Deadline: 12ᵗʰ December 2019 (11.55pm online submission)

Short Description: Drawing on the research that you conducted while preparing for your composition, write a short paper of approximately 1500 words that:

Places your work in context, describes the underlying principles behind your work, outlines your aesthetic/technical intentions and processes and concludes with a reflection and evaluation of your composition.

2. ASSESSMENT 1 BRIEF

Assessment 1 (75%):

The assessment for this module provides you with a public outlet for an interactive creative technologies project. Using free opensource software Processing www.processing.org you will conceive, design and implement an interactive and engaging installation.

This is the major assessed component of this module. For this assessment you need to conceive, plan and realise an individual installation, which should *have a clear theme* and showcase your skills and knowledge.

The project should *bring together your creative and technical skills*. A technically accomplished project with a weak idea, or a strong creative idea that is poorly executed will not achieve as high a grade as a strong creative, conceptual idea that has been well executed. The theme of your installation has been left open for you to pursue your own creative ideas and interests, however you should consider the following:

- The theme of your work could be a process that you wish to explore; an aesthetic, mood, concept, idea or emotion however you should have a clear idea you wish to communicate or explore.
- You should submit one substantial project. Ensure you challenge yourself and expand your creative horizons.
- You must credit any media or source that you have not created
- You must submit an initial proposal for your installation to your tutor. You will *receive feedback* on this before embarking on your work.

You must also include a short video demonstration of your installation and a completed copy of the self-assessment form available on Moodle.

Submit

Hand in a zip file with clearly labelled files containing the code and other relevant supporting files used to create your project, together with a demonstration video to the online Moodle link by 12th December 2019.

The video must be in .mov or .mp4 format and no larger than 500MB.

Checklist, Have you:

☐ Created a short demonstration video in .mov or .mp4 format no larger than 500MB.

☐ Included your project and all supporting files used to create your digital media project

☐ Completed the self-assessment form available on Moodle.
☐ Clearly labelled and organised your files and folders

Assessment Criteria

	Learning Outcome
Concept, creativity and originality.	LO1, LO2
Technical competence, skills and software functionality. Range and level of skill evidenced in assessment	LO1, LO2, LO3
Aesthetics – fidelity, production skill, sonic/visual ideas and their manipulation	LO2, LO3
Project realisation: overall success in meeting project aims	LO1, LO2, LO3
Well presented, supporting files submitted, all are clearly labelled and organised.	LO2, LO3

3. ASSESSMENT 1 MARK SCHEME

Criteria	Absolute Fail	Marginal Fail	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Exceptional
	0-29	**30-39**	**40-49**	**50-59**	**60-69**	**70-79**	**80+**
	Descriptors of student work in each grade band						
Concept, creativity and originality. *Module LO's 1, 2*	There is no serious attempt to address the assignment brief. The work is deficient in a number of significant aspects.	Few ideas have been generated, these may be poorly formed or executed and lack creativity and development.	Some ideas have been generated, these may be predictable. Repetitive and lacking in development.	A range of ideas have been generated with some evidence of development. Some consideration of theme and project coherence.	Creativity is in evidence; these ideas have been developed in an effective way into a coherent theme and project.	Excellent work, with a significant deal of creativity, development and coherence throughout.	Creativity, development and project themes are of a publishable quality. Exceptional skill and ability is exercised with regard to form, content and function.
Technical competence, skills and software functionality. Range and level of skill evidenced in assessment. *Module LO's 1,2,3*	There are significant problems. The work is of a very poor standard throughout showing little or no understanding of the brief.	Evidence an attempt has been made, but it has been hindered by confusion or a lack of technical understanding, with numerous technical problems and unintended glitches.	Technical resources have been used in a limited capacity. There may be some technical problems, but the work shows a fair degree of competence.	Overall, technically competent (the lower marks may have problems here at times, but even these will have their saving graces).	Shows a command of the technical resources used but some parts may be weaker than others.	Demonstrates an excellent knowledge of technical resources, exploring these in depth.	Exhibits a mastery of technical resources, demonstrating in depth exploration and command.
Aesthetics – fidelity, production skill, sonic/visual ideas and their manipulation *Module LO's 1,3*	The work is of a very poor standard throughout showing little or no understanding of the brief or effort applied.	The work demonstrates an attempt to realise the project, but the aesthetic presentation is underdeveloped.	The work has been produced to a fair standard with issues around the realisation of ideas.	The work has been produced to a good standard but there may be small issues with the presentation of content.	The work has been well produced with aesthetic awareness supporting the project themes.	The work has been excellently crafted, with a strong aesthetic awareness supporting the project themes.	Professional quality. The work has been expertly crafted and realised.
Well presented, supporting files submitted, all are clearly labelled and organised.	Supporting files are missing.	Some supporting files are missing.	Supporting files have been submitted but are not clearly labelled or poorly organised.	Supporting files are submitted and are labelled.	Supporting files are submitted and are clearly labelled and organised.	Supporting files are submitted and are clearly labelled and systematically organised.	Supporting files are submitted and are clearly labelled and systematically organised in a professional manner.

4. ASSESSMENT 2 BRIEF

Assessment 2 (25%): Essay

Short Description: Drawing on the research that you conducted while preparing for your composition, write a short paper of approximately 1500 words that:

• Places your work in context, outlining historical precedents and similar work by others.

• Cites your sources and references clearly. Be sure to include a bibliography using the Harvard method. Further information on Harvard referencing is available here:

http://referencing.port.ac.uk/

• Describes the underlying principles behind your work.

• Outlines your aesthetic/technical intentions and processes

• Concludes with a reflection and evaluation of your project. Include reflection on the feedback you have already received on your project proposal and elsewhere during the course of the module.

Your essay should contain the following:

- *Introduction/Context/Background*. What are you writing about, what are the key ideas, who were the pioneers, what work did they create? Including fully referenced citations.
- *Your idea. Explain your idea*. What were you aiming to achieve? In what ways is it similar, different or an extension to the music mentioned in your introduction?
- You must ensure you discuss and reflect upon the *feedback* given to your proposal and throughout the module.
- *Your implementation*. How did you realise it? What did you use? Talk about technical and creative processes here. Use screenshots judicially to help illustrate your explanations.
- *Evaluation/Conclusion*. How successful were you in meeting your aims? Which aspects worked well, which didn't? What would you do differently if you were to do something similar again? How did you respond to feedback?
- *Bibliography* – Harvard Format. Remember to reference Internet, Book and musical sources used.

Important Note:

This assignment must be submitted using Turnitin online submission in Moodle. Submit your completed essay as a PDF file to the before the above deadline.

You are allowed to overwrite your submissions up to the deadline. Do read the Turnitin originality report for your essay.

Assessment Criteria

	Learning Outcome
Clarity of aims placing own work in context, including evidence of additional research and research informing practice.	LO2, LO4
Evidence of technical understanding	LO2
Critical reflection and evaluation of project against aims	LO4, LO5
Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and Presentation	LO5
Harvard Referencing, Bibliography and Citations	LO4, LO5

5. ASSESSMENT 2 MARK SCHEME

Criteria	Absolute Fail	Marginal Fail	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Exceptional
	0-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+
	Descriptors of student work in each grade band						
Clarity of aims placing own work in context, including evidence of additional research and research informing practice. LO 2, LO4	No statement or very generalised with vague aims or objectives. Clear lack of any meaningful consideration of contextual areas	Problem area outlined but insufficiently clear aims and objectives. Superficial consideration of context/background	Problem topic and aims and objectives apparent, but shows limited understanding and analysis. Some effort, but Insubstantial discussion of context.	Problem topic and aims and objectives well-articulated, some analysis. Key aspects of the context are covered. Background context presented.	Problem topic and aims and objectives well framed and viewed in wider context + Shows good understanding and analysis	Problem is clearly shown to be challenging or shows originality and confidence in criticising assumptions/current ideas	Analysis of problem adds new insights
Evidence of technical understanding LO2	Significant misunderstanding of technical issues or failure to address this area.	Some evidence of technical understanding though this may be flawed or superficial.	Evidence of some technical knowledge though flaws and misunderstandings are in evidence or key information missing.	Overall, technically sound understanding (the lower marks may have problems here at times, but even these will have their saving graces)	Shows a command of the technical resources used but some technical understanding may be weaker than others.	Demonstrates an excellent knowledge of technical resources, exploring these in depth.	Exhibits a mastery of technical resources, demonstrating in depth exploration and command.
Critical reflection and evaluation of project against aims LO4, LO5	No or very little evidence of any meaningful critical reflection or evaluation	Superficial &/or overly brief critical reflection or evaluation. May be under word count.	Some evidence of evaluation & reflection on the project.	Good attempt at reflective writing, evidence of meaningful evaluation	Strong critical reflection & evaluation based on thorough criteria. Includes clear reflection on formative feedback.	Comprehensive critical reflection & evaluation throughout based on well considered criteria, including critical reflection on formative feedback.	Outstanding critical reflection & evaluation throughout based on well considered criteria, including critical reflection on formative feedback.
Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar and Presentation	Acutely deficient in all aspects	Serious problems with a number of aspects of language use are often found in work in this range	An attempt to follow directions regarding organisation, structure, use and flow of language, grammar, spelling, format, diagrams, tables etc	Satisfactory presentation with respect to presentation, organisation, language, grammar, spelling, format,	Very good in terms of organisation, structure, use and flow of language, grammar, spelling, format, presentation, diagrams etc.	Excellent in terms of organisation, structure, use and flow of language, grammar, spelling, format, presentation, diagrams etc.	Outstanding quality in terms of organisation, structure, use and flow of language, grammar, spelling, format, presentation, diagrams etc.

				presentation, diagrams etc.			
APA Referencing, Bibliography and Citations	Very poor/inappropriate sources. Badly used. Very poor / missing/references & bibliography	Few or poor range of sources & not well-used. Poor referencing	Adequate use of appropriate sources. Referencing adequate but with some errors/omissions.	Good use of appropriate sources Referencing good with perhaps a few errors & omissions.	Very good use of appropriate sources Very good referencing with perhaps a few minor errors.	Excellent use of sources indicating comprehensive research of the topic area Flawless (or near) references & bibliography.	Outstanding use and range of sources, Flawless (or near) references & bibliography.

7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As a matter of course:

* be punctual;

* attend all sessions;

* make sure you bring headphones and storage (hard drive, USB drive)

* make sure you make use of the computer lab facilities on a regular basis;

* do not leave work to the last minute.

* Check Moodle regularly for module materials and suggested links for independent study.

* Do engage in independent study outside of class time. This module is worth 20 credits this represents 200 learning hours. Failure to engage in an appropriate amount of independent study will inevitably compromise what you can achieve in the module.

Refer to the brief

Considerable freedom is allowed for interpretation within the set work however it is important that you work within the constraints that a brief may set. These limits are imposed for a reason and are part of the discipline necessary for you to manage the medium effectively and to beginning to develop a 'professional' attitude towards your working method.

Keep backups of all your work!

Digital technology is particularly vulnerable to a host of problems as is the related storage media. The importance of keeping backups of your work cannot be over stressed and it will cost you money to do so - so budget accordingly. Invest in hard drives and make use of cloud based storage (such as Google Drive). Assignment extensions are NOT available for issues resulting from lost work or issues such as hard drive failure.

Small print for the wise:

* Students submitting master copies for assessment do so solely at their own risk.

* Students must ensure they have adequately checked all media for data soundness, readability or compatibility on appropriate systems before submitting for assessment.

* Students must ensure they are submitting work in the correct format regarding both data file type and media type.

* Students must ensure they have adequately labeled all media before submitting it for assessment.

Some brutal facts of life:

* Once a master file has gone, for whatever reason, it has probably gone forever!

- Your average PC/Mac will have several Giga/Tera bytes of local hard disc storage. One day, may be today, your hard disc will die and take all your data with it!

- How do you effectively secure yourself against this inevitable eventuality and what will it cost you?

- Some of the most serious problems with systems happen when they are still new or the latest versions. Do not be led into a false sense of security based on the belief that only 'old' systems are the ones that die!

- If we cannot read it, load it, play it we cannot mark it!

- Do not leave important files on the computer lab hard drives. There is no guarantee that they will be present for your next session! Make sure you come prepared with appropriate backup storage!

Plagiarism

What does plagiarism mean? It means "gaining an unfair advantage", or alternatively it means "to steal from the writings or ideas of another person". It relates to the presentation of other people's thoughts, words or ideas as your own and encompasses music, sound and image as well as academic texts.

Plagiarism is taken it very seriously. If you plagiarise someone else's work you may fail in the assessment of the particular piece of work and in the module. In extreme cases a candidate may fail the course.

Please consult your Student Handbook for details on current policy regarding plagiarism. It should be understood here that plagiarism is a serious matter and must be avoided. Do please ask tutors if you have any problems or queries about references, plagiarism or anything else concerning your work.

Note 1: To obtain a data file (e.g. HTML, CSS, sample, APK or MIDI file etc.) and present it as your own work is plagiarism and will be dealt with accordingly. If you are in any doubt seek the advice of the module teaching staff.

Note 2: A student helping another by giving them their material will also be subject to disciplinary action. This philanthropic act will rebound on both parties.

Note 3: Use of any and all 3rd party copyright material not created or owned by you must be referenced, this will stand you in good stead in the commercial world when you will have to 'clear' copyrighted 3rd party material before publication/release.