Dear students,

We hope you are bearing up under the extraordinary circumstances we all now face. You will by now have seen the statement from the University about "examinations" next term. This message is to give you details about the arrangements which will apply to the Music Tripos. Everyone will be affected by stress and anxiety about their health and the wellbeing of their loved ones. Many of you will be facing limited internet connectivity and non-ideal working environments. The plans which we put to the University, and which have now been approved, are designed to take all of this into account as far as is possible. We appreciate that, as with normal examinations, there will be individuals whose particular needs are not catered for by these provisions; they should apply through their Tutor in the usual way to the Examination Access and Mitigation Committee.

The Music Faculty will be holding examinations as outlined below. These will obviously be different from the conventional three-hour sit-down format, but they are intended to enable you to test your progress in ways that should not be too unfamiliar to you.

The University has decided that first and second year examinations will not be formally classed but should be used to indicate students' readiness to proceed to the next level of each Tripos. We have made arrangements for assessment in Part IA and Part IB of the Music Tripos with the intention that these will help guide you in your choices of papers for the following year. In Part II, the University has decided that examination results should be formally classed but that, provided they pass their final year assessments, no students will receive a classification lower than that achieved in the previous year. In effect, this means that, assuming a pass, performance in this year's Part II examinations cannot bring your classification down but may raise it.

All examinations will be released and submitted via Moodle; all coursework will also be submitted via this route.

**Part IA**

There will be no formal classification. Teaching will be either be recorded and uploaded to Moodle or scheduled live before 11 May.

Coursework deadlines (Paper 1 (Composition, Essay) will be extended by 1 month, with all submissions via Moodle.
The practical skills/aural elements of Papers 5 and 6 will not be assessed.

Examination papers for Papers 1-5, including the takeaway papers, will be released on 11 May 2020 with a deadline of 5 June to upload scanned (Paper 5) or typed answers. The expectation will be that each student spends the originally-allotted amount of time on each examination. Answers to written papers should take the form of two essays each of not more than 2000 words per examination paper, except in the case of the exam portion of Paper 1 (Music and Musicology Today), where you will be asked to produce a single essay of no more than 2000 words. Footnotes, references or bibliography may be provided but are not required. We ask you to discuss organisation of personal deadlines with Directors of Studies in order to space out the work according to individual needs; a suggested (but not compulsory) timetable will be released as soon as possible. All answers may be checked via Turnitin.

The Performance element will comprise feedback on the basis of a teacher report and student self-reflection to be evaluated by the Director of Studies.

Marking and feedback will be organised at College level. This feedback is intended to help you select courses for next year's Part IB.

**Part IB**

As for Part IA, there will be no formal classification. Teaching will either be recorded and uploaded to Moodle or scheduled live by 11 May.

Again, coursework deadlines (Paper 3, 4 (Extended essay), 5, 6, 9 will be extended by 1 month, with all submissions via Moodle.

Paper 8 Keyboard Skills will not be assessed.

Examination papers for Papers 1, 2, 7, 9-12, including the takeaway paper for Paper 2, will be released on 11 May 2020 with a deadline of 5 June to upload scanned (Paper 7) or typed (Papers 1, 2, 9-12) answers. Answers to written Papers 1, 2 and 9-12 should take the form of two essays each of not more than 2000 words per examination paper. For Paper 4, students will be asked to produce one answer of no more than 2000 words. For Paper 7, students will be asked to provide one transcription and one commentary. Footnotes, references or bibliography may be provided but are not required. Again, students should discuss organisation of personal deadline with Directors of Studies in order to space out the work according to individual needs; a suggested (but not compulsory) timetable will be released as soon as possible. All answers may be checked via Turnitin.

The Performance element of Paper 4 will comprise feedback on the basis of your
instrumental teacher’s report and student self-reflection to be evaluated by your Director of Studies, as well as an optional Skype live session with one of the performance examiners.

Formative feedback to students will be collated by the Exam Board; you should find this feedback helpful in deciding which courses you may choose to follow in Part II.

**Part II**

Assessment in Part II follows, as far as is possible, existing procedures. Classification will proceed according to the standard procedures outlined in the Faculty's document "Classification of Candidates for the Music Tripos Part II". The final Exam Board will be moved to **24 June 2020** to take account of the extended timetable.

Coursework deadlines (Papers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 (portfolio) will be extended by 1 month, with all submissions via Moodle.

Students offering Paper 2 (Composition Portfolio) and Paper 6 (Advanced Tonal Skills) are not required to include recordings with their submissions. Submissions under the new formats for Paper 4 (Advanced Performance) and for Paper 8 (Advanced Skills) should be submitted via Moodle by **5 June 2020**. Rubrics for these new formats are appended below. If selected in Paper 8, options 5 and 6 will be assessed by submitted video in a 24-hour exam; questions will be released to candidates at **noon on 25 May** for submission of video by **noon on 26 May**.

Examination papers for Papers 6, 7, and 9-17 will be released on **11 May 2020** with a deadline of **5 June 2020** to upload scanned (Papers 6, 7) or typed (Papers 9-17) answers to Moodle. The expectation will be that each student spends the originally-allotted amount of time on each examination. Answers to Papers 9-17 should take the form of two essays each of not more than 2000 words. For Paper 6, one of the exercises in the examination paper should be completed. Footnotes, in-text references or bibliography may be provided but are not required. A recommended timetable for the examinations will be provided when the examination papers are released. All answers may be checked via Turnitin.

Teaching will either be recorded and uploaded to Moodle or scheduled live in advance of 11 May.

**FAQs**

We realise that many of you will have concerns that are not addressed in this message. We invite you to send your queries to undergraduate@mus.cam.ac.uk in the first instance, and they will be forwarded to the Chair of the relevant Exam Board. We shall be setting up a Faculty of Music Assessment FAQ page on the Faculty website in the very near future through which we would hope to meet your concerns. This page will also include details of
all assessment arrangements listed by part and paper.

With best wishes
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