

Extended Diploma in Music Performance & Production

Project proposal template

In producing the project proposal, and in preparing for the project realisation, you should familiarise yourself with Units 12 and 13 of the qualification. In particular, you should understand the assessment and grading criteria, which will be used to determine standards of achievement.

Unit 12 requires you to produce a project proposal of about 800 words, excluding the project action plan and bibliography. Project proposals should not be so succinct that they do not address the requirements listed, nor should they be excessively long and unfocused. Your project proposal should be sufficiently challenging to ensure you have the best possible chance of meeting the grading criteria in Unit 13, the extended project.

Your project proposal should include:

- *Centre name and number*
- *Candidate name and number*
- *Project proposal title and date*
- *Main area of activity/ pathway.*

The project proposal must be word processed and presented under the headings listed here:

Section 1 - Context

(Approximately 300 words)

This section provides you with an opportunity to reflect on, review and summarise your progress and achievements through the first 11 units, and the knowledge, skills and understanding you have acquired. What you know now, and what it means to you, compared with what you knew and could do before you started the course, and how this has influenced your choice of pathway and your project proposal.

It also provides an opportunity for you to explain your reasons for choosing a particular pathway and to outline both your immediate and longer-term aspirations. You should use this section to clearly explain the concept and aims of your personal project, and what you anticipate producing, making reference to the critical and contextual perspectives within which your own work is situated.

Section 2 – Research

(Approximately 50 words)

This section provides you with an opportunity to record the initial research sources that you intend to use, both primary and secondary and the ideas that will support and inform

the development of your project. Your sources of research should be as wide as possible, including: libraries, museums and galleries; books and magazines; theatre and live events; film, TV and radio, and websites and digital sources.

You should include references to print or digital media in the form of a bibliography presented using the Harvard system of referencing, within the template provided.

Section 3 – Problem solving

(Approximately 100 words)

In this section, you should describe how you intend to overcome problems you are likely to encounter during the development of your proposed project. Give examples of both practical and theoretical problems that you have resolved through your previous work.

Include examples of personal initiative and commitment that you have previously demonstrated and use this to anticipate the level of comprehension, appreciation, knowledge and proficiency that will be necessary to achieve your identified goals.

Section 4 – Planning and production

(Approximately 50 words)

This section provides you with an opportunity to outline your planning and organisation over a period of weeks, and the activities you will need to carry out in order to successfully complete your project within the agreed time-frame. Your planning should be presented within the template provided. It is important that you consider how you will balance ambition, time and realism in the realisation of the project. This should include what you are going to do, how you will do it and by when.

The more time and thought you give to planning your project, the more successful it is likely to be. Remember to include time spent on: sourcing materials, performing questionnaires, accessing workshops, tutorial and peer group feedback opportunities and where you will incorporate independent study. You should also outline the resources that you will need and an indication of the form in which you will complete and present your final realisation within the allocated timescale.

Section 5 – Practical skills

(Approximately 100 words)

In this section, you should describe the practical elements of your project and the materials processes and technical skills that you will need to apply in order to successfully realise your proposal.

Give examples of techniques and processes that you have used during previous units. This can include the development of a range of skills used to support and ensure the successful communication of experiences and ideas and the resources you will need to access in order to fully explore the potential of your project concept.

Section 6 – Evaluation and reflection

(Approximately 100 words)

This section provides an opportunity for you to explain how you will reflect on and evaluate your work, as both an ongoing activity and at the conclusion of the project.

You should describe how you intend to record your decision making, and how you will document changes to your ideas as work progresses.

The evaluation should be referenced to your stated aims and be reflective and analytical rather than a description of actions completed. When working in collaboration with others you should comment on how this may impact either positively or adversely and steps you can take to minimise disruption to your own progress.

Section 7 – Presentation

(Approximately 100 words)

The final section provides an opportunity for you to describe how you intend to organise and present the work generated throughout the development of your project. You should consider the most appropriate formats for communicating the development of your ideas to an identified audience, both visually and conceptually and how you will present your conclusions and outcomes.

Additional requirements (not included in the 800-word proposal):

- **Proposal cover sheet and project title**
- **Bibliography**
- **Project timetable**
- **Digital presentation**

Extended Diploma in Music Performance & Production

Unit 12 Project Proposal

Candidate Name	Luke Donnelly
Candidate Number	23003103
Pathway	
Project Title	
Section 1: Context (approx. 300 words)	
<p>Throughout my first year of the course, I have developed a better understanding and set of skills in music production, performing and songwriting as well as promotional methods. This project will help me develop these skills further and give me more experience in a professional environment.</p> <p>For my project I will be producing a professional music video and song to go with it with my bandmate. This will test me as both a producer and performer to get the most out of it. I will be taking research from the other 11 units from this course and applying them to this project as well as applying and developing current skills and knowledge.</p> <p>I will be taking inspiration from Mike Clink and Jim Abbiss, researching into both their own production and recording techniques as well as using my own style and uniqueness to it. I chose these two producers as influences because their style of producing is very similar to my own as well as being famous in the same genres as my project being a good fit to take inspiration from.</p> <p>Hard/Alternative inspired production is an area I feel comfortable working in as it's an area that has very similar techniques and style as my own and I can work more naturally with my ability to, perform, mix and sequence drums.</p> <p>I will be creating and updating a weekly diary to evaluate work done on each week of the final project. This will make it easier to track my progress on the project, document problems faced and how I overcame them as well as keep me up to date with the plan of action.</p>	

Section 2: Research (approx. 50 words)

A large area of my secondary research will go into production techniques as I feel this is the area with the biggest range of techniques to use in my project, this includes, panning, EQ and mixing vocals. Furthermore I will research a lot into promotional techniques and advertising in the music industry as this is something I have had the least amount of experience with and I will primarily use the apps; Instagram, Tik Tok and Youtube. Researching techniques for promotion will help me develop my own plan when promoting my own music in the future.

My main source of primary research will be my peers and tutors opinions and criticism, this will help me develop my music video in a positive and effective manner. I will update them weekly on how my project is going as well as what's to come in future weeks. I will document this research in text weekly in my evaluations as well as discussing what techniques that work well with my peers.

All of my research will be added to a bibliography using harvard referencing.

Section 3: Problem solving (approx. 100 words)

Encountering a problem during this project is guaranteed. Using primary and secondary research these problems will become easier to identify and overcome. Being able to adapt to different recording scenarios, such as a new and unfamiliar studio, will help me with problem solving as there is a high possibility I will need to make last minute changes at some point during the project. If I need to use music equipment, such as new mics, that I am unfamiliar with I will research before using it so I can be more prepared in setting up and maximising the quality of the recording.

Speaking to my peers for advice will give me a deeper understanding of the possible problems I will encounter as well as a viable solution to the problem. Referring back to my old work in other units will also make any previously encountered problems easier to recognise and solve.

Section 4: Planning and production (approx. 50 words)

Planning out my project efficiently and effectively is a key area in making it easier to manage and follow. This will include any potential research and their sources. Alongside my research, I will discuss and present for how I will approach practical work which will ensure I met deadlines as well as leaving time for written work and any second reviews of my work.

Section 5: Practical skills (approx. 100 words)

Practical work is 50% of my final project. A majority of my research for practical aspects will be through Youtube videos, peer reviews and online articles as well as developing my research and skills in the practical recording part of my project will help it have a more professional sound and standard. Keeping motivated in the practical part of the project is very important when it comes to making progress as well as keeping on schedule and leaving room for improvements as well as adding suggestions from the peers around me.

Section 6: Evaluation and reflection (approx. 100 words)

Throughout this project I will keep a weekly evaluative diary, detailing all progress made in each week this consists of, any research completed, changes in plan, completed practical work, and I will analyse my progress to see how research has helped me in this project and how it has positively affected my progress. Consistently having conversations with peers about peer assessment will allow me to improve my work throughout the project as I can use that information to make tweaks to my work and improve the quality as a whole.

Section 7: Presentation (approx. 100 words)

Presenting my work in a professional and simple manner will push my work to a higher level as well as help others to easily understand my work. Showcasing my work through wix . Any research completed throughout the project will be documented in a bibliography using harvard referencing at the end which will be updated weekly which will allow me to keep track of the resources I used throughout my project. Having my evaluation in written format will allow me to detail each aspect of research and practical work throughout each week. Presenting this project in a structured WIX website will allow my project to become much more presentable and easier to follow.

Proposed Research Sources and Bibliography (Harvard Format)

Academic Journals

Blogs

Books

Online Articles

Peers

Podcasts

Spotify

Youtube

Project Action Plan and Timetable: Extended Project 2024.

Week	Date Week Beginning	Activity / What you are intending to do - including independent study	Resources / What you will need to do it - including access to workshops
1	10th Feb	This week I am planning everything such as where the video is taking place, when it's being recorded, and other things like how many camera angles etc...	
2	17th Feb	This week I am going to research how to make a music video, as well as how to make videos look better in general when it comes to recording techniques and camera angles etc...	Research using Youtube and online articles.
3	3rd March	Milestone 1: This week I presented my project proposal to my peers and got a peer review.	
4	10th March	Milestone 1 & 2: This week I took notes of feedback given to me as well as finishing up on written work.	
5	17th March	Milestone 3: This week was spent researching live sound and phone recording	
6	24th March	This week I went over my plan again to make sure it was still possible and nothing needed to be changed	One of the live rooms
7	31st March	Rehearsing the songs we are going to do is the priority for the next two weeks to make sure we can play the song well so it sounds more professional and of a higher quality	
8	7th April	Rehearsing the songs. Research on live recordings Research on mixing and mastering	
9	28th April	This week are doing more practical and it's either going to be an original song or a cover	guitars, background props
10	5th May	Milestone 4: this week we recorded the final video (cage the elephant)	

11	12th May	Milestone 5: This week I am going to go through my entire project and make sure everything is up to date, changes made, research completed and it's all on wix in a presentable form.	
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