Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

	Basic Course Information	
1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University
2.	School/Campus:	Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies
3.	Final Award, Course Title and Modes of Study:	FdSc Live & Technical Events Full time
4.	Normal Duration:	2 years
5.	UCAS Code:	J930

6. **Overview and general educational aims of the course**

The live events industry has seen rapid growth in recent years, fuelled by consumer desire to experience live audio visual content in a range of settings. London theatre ticket sales are increasing year on year and UK festivals and live events continue to add significantly to the UK economy. Additionally, the recent decline in recorded music sales has given rise to a need for record companies to monetise their assets in new ways, further fuelling the growth of live music events. Recent legislation in the UK in the form of the *Live Music Act* is also helping to deregulate and expand the live music sector, with UK Music predicting an additional 13,000 venues will have staged live music as a result in the UK.

This growing industry requires a skilled workforce, capable of independent thought, creativity and a highly developed understanding of the technological aspects of the industry.

The overarching aim of the FdSc in Live and Technical Events is to equip you with a broad set of technical and practical skills, whilst also developing your critical and divergent thinking, so that you are able to not only work effectively within your chosen subject discipline, but that you can go on to help shape the future of this rapidly growing industry**.**

7. **Core modules**

8. **Level Four (120 Credits)**

- Stage and Lighting Technology (40 Credits)
- Sound Technology & Practice (40 Credits)
- Equipment, Maintenance and Repair (20 Credits)
- The Live Events Industry (20 Credits)

Level Five (120 Credits)

- Advanced Stage and Lighting Technology (40 Credits)
- Advanced Sound Technology & Practice (40 Credits)
- Visual Effects Production for Live Events (20 Credits)
- Industry Practice (20 Credits)

9. **Optional modules**

There are no optional modules on this course.

10. **Course outcomes**

Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide.

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to demonstrate knowledge and

understanding of:

- The scientific principles that underpin live and technical events.
- The mathematics necessary to support the practical application of live and technical events.
- The commercial and economic context of live and technical events.
- The framework of relevant legal requirements governing the live and technical events sector.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to demonstrate:

- The ability to use relevant equipment and tools associated with live and technical events.
- The ability to design solutions according to customer need, applying creativity and innovation in a practical context.
- The ability to assess the fitness for purpose of equipment associated with live and technical events, including operation, maintenance and reliability.
- Competence in live event management, workflows, and professional practices
- The ability to use software and hardware systems to distribute, capture and manipulate audio data.
- The ability to use software and hardware systems to design and control lighting, video and special effects content across a range of disciplines.
- Appropriate research skills in both the academic and practical environment.
- The ability to use and apply information from technical literature in the live and technical events sector.

11. **Teaching and learning methods; including course delivery**

Teaching and learning will take place in a range of bespoke IT suites and a real-world commercial live event venue. The overarching teaching and learning ethos is to develop your practical, technical and critical thinking skills.

Classes will be a mixture of technical lectures and workshops where you will explore the core scientific and mathematical principles of the module subject areas. You will work with mathematical data and perform exercises that test theory in practical settings. You will be encouraged to develop a critical and inquisitive approach to your studies through research into areas of study that are of particular interest to you.

In addition to the theoretical underpinning of the subject area, the teaching and learning activities will predominantly focus on developing your practical skills. The course structure is designed to focus on the dominant aspects of the live events sector, from the point of view of technical staff. Therefore; the study of staging, lighting and sound makes up the greatest overall percentage of your degree award. The teaching and learning throughout the course will focus heavily on developing these practical skills to prepare you for work in industry.

In some modules you will work on 'live' projects, where you are required to complete work for industry clients. This work will give you the opportunity to demonstrate your developing professionalism whilst also building a portfolio of work that will aid your future employability.

Significant amounts of independent self-directed work will be required in order to get the most out of yourself from the course. Your success in industry will be defined by your ability to work with initiative in a collaborative setting. Successful achievement on your FdSc will therefore require self-directed reading, self-directed industry research (into specific industry practice), independent practical development and coherent, sustained project management.

Your Module Leaders will provide support specifically related to each module. Your personal tutor will also be on hand to offer guidance and support where necessary.

You are encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning. All related module information can be accessed on the NOW in support of this learning.

In year 1 you will have 12 hours of contact time and be expected to undertake a minimum of 16 hours of self-directed study.

In year 2 you will have 11 hours of contact time and be expected to undertake a minimum of 20 hours of self-directed study.

12. **Assessment methods**

Assessment is conducted according to the School 'Assessment and Feedback Principles and Guidelines' policy. This policy ensures the academic standards and their appropriateness, are made clear to you.

You will receive a lot of informal Formative Feedback during the course. This feedback is provided to help you evaluate your progress as you work through problems. This type of feedback is typically provided within tutorials verbally, as part of seminars, lectures or workshops.

Summative Feedback provides you with an overarching review of your achievements set against the learning outcomes for a module. Formal Summative Feedback occurs at the end of each assignment.

10. **Course structure and curriculum**

This is a two year course worth 240 Credit Points.

You will study towards 120 credit points in each year of study. The first year of study focusses on introductory material to establish a base level understanding of theoretical principles and practical processes. Your second year of study will expand your technical understanding of the core subject disciplines, whilst also introducing you to new contexts and working practices.

Both years of study include an 'Industry' based module, which will form the majority of your work-related learning activities. These modules are designed to introduce you to the live events workplace, through 'live' client projects and self-directed project management assignments. They are also an opportunity for you to put into practice the skills acquired in your other modules within an industry setting.

The assignments completed across all modules of the course are designed so that you will have developed a core set of skills by the end of your studies that will prepare you for work in industry. Additionally, the work you complete as part of your studies will form an ongoing collection of work that demonstrates your developing professionalism in the subject area, thus helping support your entry into industry or further study after graduation.

Higher Certificate

Interim Award

The interim award for this foundation degree is a Higher Certificate in Music Performance. 120 credits at level 4 FHEQ (Framework for Higher Education

Qualifications) are required to achieve this award.

Progression routes

The formal automatic progression route for students on the foundation degree, who have succeeded at level 5, is to progress to the BSc (Hons) Live and Technical Events.

11. Admission to the course

Application is through UCAS. Minimum entry requirements follow the University's Code of Practice for Admissions.

The target groups for the course are:

- Applicants who have gained a BTEC Extended Diploma award
- Students with A-Level award qualifications
- Mature students looking for career development or change.

For admission to the course students will need to have achieved 160 UCAS points from one of the following:

- at least 2 A levels or equivalent + 5 GCSEs grade A – C including maths and English
- Applications from mature students will also be considered in terms of their skills, aptitude and experience

Mature students with relevant experience and/or qualifications within a relevant subject area, are welcome to apply.

It is yet to be determined whether under the new ownership arrangement CICT will accept International students; however, should they do the following admissions criteria will need to be met:
International applicants will require an equivalent Level 3 qualification and will also require an IELTS score of at least 6.0, in addition to the standard entry criteria. Equivalent scores from other English language tests will be considered.

Non-UK qualifications will be assessed in comparison to their UK equivalents.

Additional support for speakers of languages other than English is provided within the University.

Though the entry requirements outlined are such as to encourage applications from a wide range of potential students the course has no part-time route.

APEL
In exceptional circumstances students with APL will be considered for admission to the course.

Widening Participation
The course will consider applicants with non-standard entry qualifications on demonstration of potential to undertake and benefit from the course.

12. Support for learning

You will be assigned a named personal tutor at the start of your year who can act as a guide in more personal matters.

Your Course Handbook will contain details of the support available to you should there be an interruption in your studies, due to circumstances outside of your control, or through other factors affecting your academic performance. The School provides three options for requesting consideration and these are found in the section on Special

Situations.

The School is committed to assisting you to achieve the best results possible during your studies with us, providing a wide range of academic help and advice. A comprehensive learner support system is adopted by the School, which also can include input from the university and student union, and can be tailored to meet your needs.

The University provides resources such as open access computers and the course provides specialised computer facilities, mixing suites, recording studios and a commercial live event venue.

13. Graduate destinations / employability

Academic Tutorials are designed to help focus your individual career plan. These sessions, designed by your tutors are supported by Careers Service. The workshop series in the Portfolio and Professional Practice module help align your own exit trajectory with the assignment work you will be completing during the course.

The live and technical events industry is rapidly growing and there is a divergence of traditional job roles alongside professionals working in new emerging technologies. This requires a modern graduate population with a diverse range of technical skills. The course's close contact with professional practice ensures that graduates continue to emerge from the learning experience with skills which position them well for this dynamic and demanding area of practice. Employment in the sector is very diverse and graduates can expect to work in technical positions that encompass the need for a broad skill set. Typical job roles in industry might include:

- Front of House sound operators and monitor engineers
- Product specialists
- Stage / Lighting design
- Lighting Technicians
- Instrument technicians
- Sound design
- Sound recordists
- Visual Effects production
- Event organisers

Many roles in industry operate on a freelance or self-employed basis and the course aims to equip students for these working models through professional industry based projects and specific business skills workshops and seminars. Graduates seeking to enter the industry in a freelance capacity are well placed to successfully do so.

14. Course standards and quality

There are well-established systems for managing the quality of the curriculum within the School. External examiners are appointed to each course and report on the appropriateness of the curriculum, the quality of student work and the assessment process.

The School reviews, defines and updates its courses and modules with dialogue between staff and students an important part of this process. Whilst there are good informal relationships between staff and students, the School and University, we also have formal channels for student feedback which comprise:

- Student/Staff Liaison Committee
- Formal module evaluation, undertaken by questionnaire
- Course Student Representatives, elected by the student group, represent students.

At the end of each year the course team write an evaluative Course Standards and Quality Report (CSQR) which is discussed by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee (SASQC) for actions recommended. Your contribution to this

process is important.

15. **Assessment regulations**

This course is subject to the University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in Section 16 of the NTU Quality Handbook). Any course specific assessment features are described below:

There are no course specific assessment features

16. **Additional Information**

Collaborative partner(s):	Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies/Nottingham Trent University
Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements:	Engineering.
Course recognised by:	N/A
Date implemented:	March 2015
Any additional information:	

Key features of the course:

- Strong links with industry with an emphasis on 'live project' briefs as an essential part of the curriculum
- Study on industry standard hardware and software, in a real-world commercial live venue.
- A broad-based curriculum that allows students to explore and experience the full range of disciplines within the subject area
- A focus on critical thinking and professionalism ensures the employability of graduates