School of Creative and Performing Arts

MUSIC

- Associate Degree of Music
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Music (Worship)
- Master of Music

EXCELSIA
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

About
EXCELSIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Established in 1983, Excelsia University College (Excelsia) is one of Australia's leading Christian higher education providers, and is an innovative and creative community of people who are passionate about excelling and growing academically, professionally, personally and spiritually. Our students and alumni embark on a journey of lifelong learning and leadership.

WORLD-CLASS MENTORSHIP

Students have one-on-one, face-to-face classes with high-calibre academics each week to give them the skills and guidance they need to succeed in a career in music.

PASTORAL CARE

Excelsia prioritises pastoral care, which is fully integrated throughout the program. It is important to Excelsia that we meet the personal and social wellbeing and academic needs of students.

PERFORMANCE BASED

We give students the opportunity to engage in practical experience in the music industry including gigging at live music venues, contemporary showcases, and concerts. Our offerings are industry-standard degrees for aspiring musicians.

MUSIC WITH A DIFFERENCE

We equip you to investigate and solve the problems that professional musicians encounter and provide flexibility to support a broad range of career paths.

OUR VISION: Excelsia contributes to making a better world through active participation in a life-transforming global Christian learning community.

OUR MISSION: Excelsia is an academic community benefiting the world by producing research characterised by exemplary scholarship consistent with a Christian world view, and graduates prepared to lead in a range of professions.

OUR VALUES

Our values reflect our vision and our mission:

1. **Christ-likeness:** striving to exemplify the life of Christ in our commitments, our actions and our relationships.
2. **Innovation and creativity:** working with passion and imagination in a range of influential professions, to further God's transformative work in the world.
3. **Scholarship:** creating a culture that values the search for truth, supports academic freedom and rewards rigorous thinking.
4. **Service to the community:** using our skills and abilities in and beyond the Institution in the service of others.
5. **Lifelong learning:** continually seeking knowledge, wisdom and capability to flourish and contribute in a changing world.

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

1. **Deep Knowledge**
   A deep, coherent and extensive knowledge of studied disciplines characterised by intellectual openness, creativity and curiosity.
2. **Critical Analysis**
   Willingness and ability to analyse issues logically, consider different options and viewpoints fairly, and make informed decisions in relevant artistic, academic and/or professional contexts and settings.
3. **Lifelong Learning**
   A commitment to lifelong learning characterised by a willingness and ability to acquire, develop and apply knowledge and skills that facilitate positive adaptations to a changing world.
4. **Effective Communication**
   Aptitude to communicate information, arguments and ideas effectively and ethically through writing, speech and/or artistic expression as appropriate within each discipline.
5. **Christian Ethical Action**
   A sound knowledge and understanding of Christian values and beliefs, and of the relevance of Christian faith to personal life, professional ethics, and social concerns.
6. **Self-Direction**
   A capacity for self-directed learning and activity while working effectively with others in scholarly, vocational, civic and/or artistic pursuits and endeavours.
7. **Technical Competence**
   Competence and facility with materials, processes and technologies relevant to learned disciplines, generic information literacy and professional practice.
8. **Responsible Innovation**
   Oriented towards exhibiting intellectual and artistic enterprise, innovation and independence in constructive, creative and responsible ways.

CAMPUS FEATURES

CAMPUS FEATURES

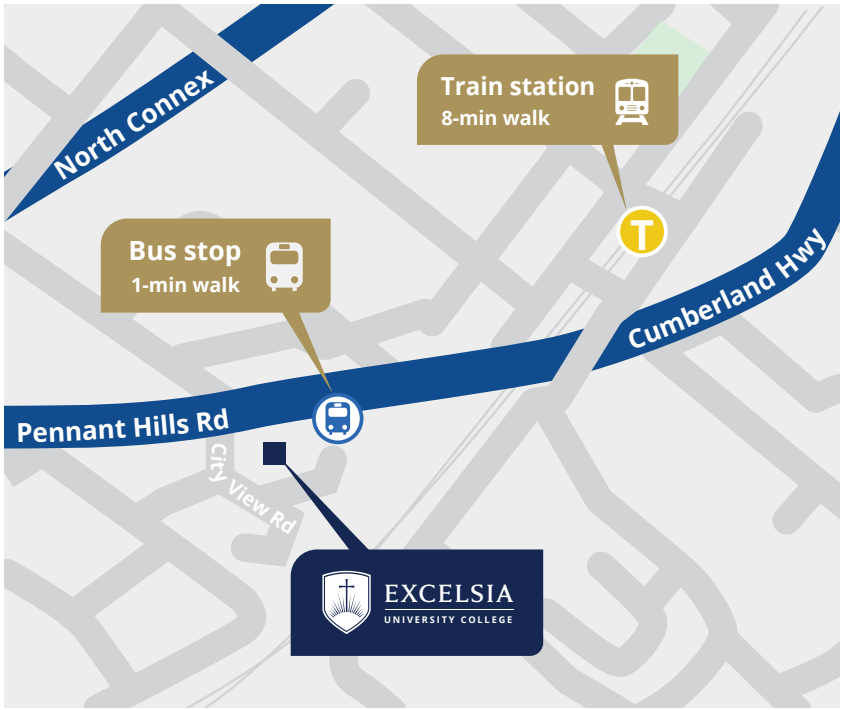
- Library
- Black box creative space
- Production studio
- Innovation centre – Mac and PC lab
- Drama and music specialist rooms
- Wellness centre
- Fidèl Café
- Koorong Bookstore
- Student facilities

Free wifi
Study desks
Snacks bar
Free coffee
Microwaves
Games console

TRANSPORT

- 8-min walk to Pennant Hills Station
- 1-min walk to bus stop
- Free parking

CONVENIENT LOCATION



WHY STUDY AT **EXCELSIA?**

EXCELSIA RANKED HIGHLY

TEACHING QUALITY*
86.2%
National average 80.5%

POSITIVE STUDENT INTERACTIONS*
84.6%
National average 59.5%

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT*
90.7%
National average 81.1%

OVERALL GRADUATE SATISFACTION^
85.4%
National average 75.6%

^ 2023–24 Course Experience Questionnaire (undergraduate)
* 2023–24 Student Experience Survey (undergraduate)

"I am proud of Excelsia's high-quality teachers, who are internationally renowned musicians, composers and researchers. Excelsia has remained committed to one-to-one instrumental and vocal teaching. It is also one of the few institutions still offering an opportunity to study a second instrument. Our collaborations with Excelsia Chamber Orchestra and Strathfield Symphony Orchestra give our students opportunities to perform and network with musicians outside the institution. The range of small ensembles we offer means that students can experience making music in many different genres, ranging from funk to heavy metal to chamber music."

— Lotte Latukefu
Head of Creative and Performing Arts

"Studying the Bachelor of Music at Excelsia has taught me many things about myself as a person, artist and student. The classes allow me to expand my musical knowledge and to gain more experience and wisdom from the excellent tutors that help encourage and push me to the best of my abilities.

Studying music here has helped boost my confidence as a performer in the most humbling way, and also allows my faith as a Christian to not be compromised but instead I am encouraged to use it to engage with my art."

— Jenelle Craig
Bachelor of Music alumnus and recipient of the Thelma Pendlebury Award

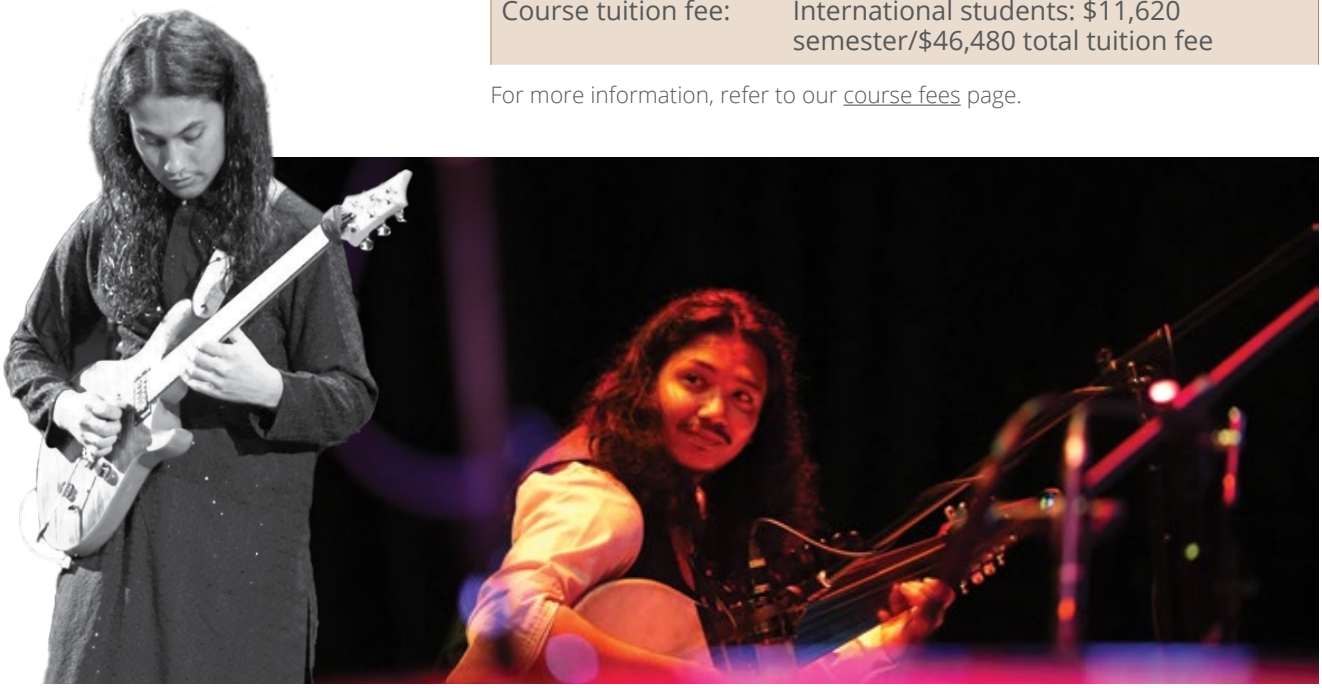
Associate Degree of MUSIC

Students exiting the Bachelor of Music after the first two years of the degree will be awarded the Associate Degree of Music.

For more details, refer to: excelsia.edu.au/courses/music/associate-degree-of-music

Course duration:	2 years full-time/4 years part-time
Credit points:	96
Delivery:	On campus
Available to:	Domestic and international
CRICOS Code:	075645J
IELTS:	6.0 with no band less than 6.0
AQF:	Level 6
Financial information:	FEE-HELP available for domestic students
Course tuition fee:	International students: $11,620 semester/$46,480 total tuition fee

For more information, refer to our course fees page.



Bachelor of MUSIC

The Bachelor of Music provides students with the technical, artistic and analytical training required to become a professional musician. The course features private tuition for voice and instrument studies and extensive performance and studio experiences.

For more details, refer to: excelsia.edu.au/courses/music/bachelor-of-music

Course duration:	3 years full-time/6 years part-time
Credit points:	144
Delivery:	On campus
Available to:	Domestic and international
CRICOS Code:	057959G
IELTS:	6.0 with no band less than 6.0
AQF:	Level 7
Financial information:	FEE-HELP available for domestic students
Course tuition fee:	International students: $11,620 semester/$69,720 total tuition fee

For more information, refer to our course fees page.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For Australian applicants with recent secondary education (school leavers)

EDUCATIONAL PREREQUISITES

NSW Higher School Certificate or its interstate or overseas equivalent, or attainment of tertiary qualification, or satisfactory completion of at least one year's full-time load in a tertiary course.

ARTISTIC AND ACADEMIC SKILL ASSESSMENT

Audition: Applicant should prepare to present 2 pieces demonstrating their skill on their major instrument (including voice).

Interview: Conducted concurrently with the audition. Applicants will discuss their previous musical experience, personal motivation and aspirations.

For international students

In addition to meeting the educational, artistic and academic prerequisites above, international applicants who have not completed an educational qualification in English should provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognised tests such as IELTS, or through satisfactory completion of an approved course at one of Excelsia's partner language colleges.

Overseas students applying for admission to Excelsia courses must have reached the age of 18 years by the commencement of their studies. Excelsia will not admit overseas students who have not yet reached 18 years of age.

For more information, visit our international student page: excelsia.edu.au/international/entry-into-australia/

For applicants with work and life experience, VET studies, and higher education

Applicants must demonstrate that they have been involved in some form of high-level music making for at least 3 years. This could include professional music making, community music making, or worship leading. For more details on special entry requirements, please visit: excelsia.edu.au/study/creative-and-performing-arts/bachelor-of-music/

CREDIT AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

Please refer to the credit and RPL policies and procedures in the Admissions Framework.

THREE STRANDS OF **SPECIALISATION**

The course is offered with three strands of specialisation, allowing students to take classes unique to their chosen career path: **Classical, Contemporary, and Jazz.**

CLASSICAL

This strand provides musicians with the high-level training in performance, musicianship, ensemble work, musicality and breadth of musical knowledge required for a life in classical music. Students are exposed to a wide range of music across history as well as one-on-one tuition on their instrument with exceptional tutors. Students can continue their journey into the world of classical music.

CONTEMPORARY

This strand prepares musicians for a career in the ever-changing world of contemporary music. Artistic, technical, practical and musicianship skills are honed to create a well-rounded musician prepared for the diverse work lives led by industry professionals. Whether students want to pursue their dream as a singer/ songwriter or start their own band, this strand will take them there.

JAZZ

This strand offers multiple experiences in improvisation, ensemble work, arrangement, and performance designed to prepare students for the highly skilled world of jazz musicianship. Students are encouraged to partake in multiple performance opportunities and workshops to help them think on their feet and engage with the dynamics of the jazz ethos.

Where this will take me

The Bachelor of Music is predicated on the understanding that professional musicians will commonly engage in 'portfolio' careers requiring versatile, flexible and adaptable skills including performing, composing, arranging, producing, directing, teaching, and researching. Using these skills (and, in some cases, with further study) our graduates have secured employment as:

- Performers (accompanists, chamber musicians, band members, session musicians)
- Composers and arrangers
- Conductors and musical directors (in school and church settings)
- Promoters, fundraisers and event planners
- Audio engineers (studio and live sound)
- Teachers (in both private and public school and non-school settings)
- Music critics, journalists and publicists

"Excelsia has come a long way from when I started back in 2011. In my nine years studying, I have not only seen it grow into a more nurturing community but also improve its quality of education."

— Ruth Kost
Excelsia Music Graduate

Units

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

FIRST-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Studio 1: Foundations in Performance
This unit introduces the basics of musical performance. You'll work on your instrumental or vocal technique in one-on-one lessons. Weekly ensemble rehearsals help you develop group work skills. You will also learn about stage setup, safety, and basic equipment handling so you are ready to go out in public and perform.

Elective 1: Versatile Musicians: Second Instrument Study 1
Choose between learning a second instrument in a collaborative setting or exploring the basics of songwriting. Both options let you expand your skills and creativity while complementing your core studies.

OR

Introduction to Songwriting
Introduction to Songwriting is an elective that introduces you to creating melodies, harmonies, and lyrics and getting your original songs ready to record and perform. You'll start by exploring iconic songs, genres and songwriters to help you understand techniques that make a great song. Through hands-on workshops, you'll experiment with songwriting – both on your own and in collaboration with others – using a range of instruments and digital tools. By the end, you'll have a collection of work ready to be recorded and shared with the world, setting the stage for your future as a professional songwriter.

Music Foundations (Aural and Keyboard)
In this unit you'll learn the essentials of musicianship, including aural skills, harmony, and keyboard techniques. Through sight-reading, improvisation, and harmonic analysis, you'll build a strong foundation for performance and composition.

SEMESTER TWO

Studio 2: Performance and Ensemble Practice ***(Pre-req: Studio 1: Foundations in Performance)***
Building on the skills you have learned in Studio 1, this unit helps you refine your performance and ensemble skills. You'll continue one-on-one lessons and tackle more complex repertoire ensembles. You will be introduced to operating sound systems, giving you practical experience for professional settings.

Understanding Popular Music
This unit explores the history, culture, and social impact of popular music. By analysing key genres and artists, you'll develop critical listening skills and a deeper appreciation for the music you love.

Introduction to Digital Music
In this unit you will be arranging music, writing charts and transcribing using industry-standard software and tools. You will be applying harmonic and aural skills in a digital context.

SECOND-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Studio 3: Performance and Collaboration ***(Pre-req: Studio 2: Performance and Ensemble Practice)***
This unit focuses on advanced ensemble performance and collaboration. You'll work with peers on complex musical projects and continue developing your technical skills in live production, including building sound systems.

Harmony in Practice ***(Pre-reqs: Music Foundations; Introduction to Digital Music)***
This unit focuses on applying harmonic principles in contemporary music, with an emphasis on Western art music. You'll analyse, harmonise, and arrange music, deepening your understanding of musical structure and providing you with the opportunity to grow musically as a performer.

History of Western Art Music
This unit traces the development of Western art music, examining key composers, works, and stylistic movements. It provides a historical and cultural context for the music you perform.

SEMESTER TWO

Studio 4: Performance and Ensemble Development ***(Pre-req: Studio 3: Performance and Collaboration)***
In this unit, you'll refine your ensemble skills and take on leadership roles in small groups. Live production workshops will cover mixing sound systems, providing you with a foundation of job-ready technical expertise.

Jazz Harmony and Arranging ***(Pre-req: Music Foundations; Introduction to Digital Music)***
Explore the harmonic language and arranging techniques of jazz. Through improvisation, voicing, and orchestration exercises, you'll expand your musical vocabulary and bring fresh ideas to your ensemble performances in Studio 4.

Formation 1
This unit draws from biblical exemplars an understanding of how our created world works to serve our civilisations. It explores the importance of faith and integrity in building civic-minded citizens.

It equips students to be intentional about their life-choices and helps students explore how faith and service can shape the learning communities that they create. It encourages students to reflect on Christlike Kingdom values including justice, compassion and human dignity. Students have the opportunity to bring cross-cultural perspectives to a critique of scriptural interpretations of the world and human relationships. Through reflection, discussion, and hands-on experiences, students will explore what it means to live with purpose, integrity, and care for others. Through discussion and analysis, students will gain a deeper understanding of the Christian scriptures and its relationship to different cultures and perspectives.

THIRD-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Studio 5: Performance Mastery/ Industry Placement 1 ***(Pre-req: Studio 4: Performance and Ensemble Development)***
In this unit, you'll focus on mastering your primary instrument or voice. Alternatively, you can undertake an industry placement to apply your skills in a professional setting.

Global Music Studies ***(Pre-req: History of Western Art Music)***
This unit delves into the rich diversity of global music traditions, using contemporary ethnomusicological methods to explore their cultural, social, and historical contexts. You will listen to and play music from various regions, developing critical listening skills and an understanding of cross-cultural influences.

Elective 2: Music Pedagogy
You will have the opportunity to implement practical teaching strategies and build a portfolio of resources for studio and ensemble settings.

OR

Elective 2: Music Business
This elective introduces you to the fundamentals of the music industry, covering key areas such as marketing, copyright, contracts, and career development. Students will gain practical insights into navigating the business side of music, preparing them for roles as performers, producers, or entrepreneurs.

SEMESTER TWO

Studio 6: Performance Leadership/ Industry Placement 2 ***(Pre-req: Studio 5: Performance Mastery)***
This final studio unit focuses on refining your leadership skills in ensemble settings and taking on musical directing roles. You can also continue your industry placement, gaining real-world experience. Studio 6 is the culmination of your journey, equipping you to excel as a performer, collaborator, and leader.

Formation 2: Designing My Creative Career ***(Pre-req: Formation 1)***
This unit provides students with the opportunity to critically reflect on how a Christian framework can guide their creative and business practices and enable them to proactively draw from biblical principles to undergird their business aspirations. Through a multidisciplinary lens, this unit investigates the spiritual, mental, physical, financial, social, and career management competencies required to build a sustainable career in the arts in Australia.

This unit systematically integrates biblical principles, academic research, national arts policy and small business practices as it examines the place of the artist within the Australian context. In doing this it provides the foundations for students to engage in lifelong learning around their craft and aims to build a holistic framework of learning that supports students to engage in authentic, sustained creative employment consistent with their individual ethical framework, a Christian world view and personal values.

Students will not only engage with the lecture series and tutorials, but apply the concepts, activities and tools to their own creative practice, the building and/or refining of their own small business, and development of their digital portfolio in job-readiness. This unit is a formation stepping stone from college into the professional context within a Christian framing of business ethics and integrity.

Digital Music Production: Composing and Recording
In this unit you will move into advanced digital music production techniques, including composing, recording, and mixing. It connects to the technical skills developed in previous units, making sure you have the tools to create and produce your own music.

ELECTIVES (CHOOSE 2)

100/200 Versatile Musicians: Second Instrument Study
Introduction to bass, piano, or vocal techniques as a second instrument

100 Introduction to Songwriting
Introduction to the singer/songwriter craft for live presentation

200/300 Second Instrument 2
(Pre-req: Second Instrument 1)

200/300 Music Business

200/300 Music Pedagogy

Associate Degree of MUSIC (WORSHIP)

Students exiting the Bachelor of Music (Worship) after the first two years of the degree will be awarded the Associate Degree of Music (Worship).

For more details, refer to: excelsia.edu.au/courses/music/associate-degree-of-music-worship

Course duration:	2 years full-time/4 years part-time
Credit points:	96
Delivery:	On campus
Available to:	Domestic and international
CRICOS Code:	109435A
IELTS:	6.0 with no band less than 6.0
AQF:	Level 6
Financial information:	FEE-HELP available for domestic students
Course tuition fee:	International students: $11,620 semester/$46,480 total tuition fee

For more information, refer to our course fees page.

Bachelor of MUSIC (WORSHIP)

Course duration:	3 years full-time/6 years part-time
Credit points:	144
Delivery:	On campus
Available to:	Domestic and international
CRICOS Code:	109057M
IELTS:	6.0 with no band less than 6.0
AQF:	Level 7
Financial information:	FEE-HELP available for domestic students
Course tuition fee:	International students: $11,620 semester/$69,720 total tuition fee

For more information, refer to our course fees page.

The Bachelor of Music (Worship) degree is a course embedded within the existing Bachelor of Music (see course page for further details). Students gain the technical, artistic and analytical training required to become professional musicians, with the course diverging in its emphasis on theological preparation for a future in Christian ministry. The addition of specific units such as Worship Music in Practice, Worship Music Placement and Theology of Worship equip students with a deeper understanding of biblical directives and theological approaches to worship through music and how to apply this in diverse church settings. Students explore central themes underpinning personal and corporate worship expression in both Old and New Testament. These include God as Creator and Father; tabernacle/temple worship; the figure of King David; the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus; the Holy Spirit; and the church.

Students also apply learnings into music production with a live/digital launch of an EP of original worship music relevant to individual and congregational worship contexts. This industry-relevant training encompasses all aspects of pre- and post-production.

Additionally, the course features placement within a congregational setting* under the mentorship of Excelsia staff and a church ministry team. Students are given a context for mentoring, practical skill development, ensemble skills, planning, songwriting and worship leading, linking with existing or new campus ministry initiatives at Excelsia, such as The Gathering and/or praise and worship meetings and events. Graduates will complete the course prepared to lead worship ministry teams both on campus and in local churches.

* Broader worship music settings are available.

For more details, refer to: excelsia.edu.au/courses/music/bachelor-of-music-worship

WORSHIP MUSIC PLACEMENT AND EP LAUNCH

Students undertake a 182-hour placement in a congregational setting and launch an EP of original worship music.

THEOLOGICAL DEPTH AND PRACTICE

Dedicated units for students to explore biblical approaches to music in worship with historical and modern application.

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN TRAINING

Students are uniquely equipped and job-ready for future careers in both secular and church environments.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For Australian applicants with recent secondary education (school leavers)

EDUCATIONAL PREREQUISITES

NSW Higher School Certificate or its interstate or overseas equivalent, or attainment of tertiary qualification, or satisfactory completion of at least one year's full-time load in a tertiary course.

ARTISTIC AND ACADEMIC SKILL ASSESSMENT

Audition: Applicant should prepare to present 2 pieces demonstrating their skill on their major instrument (including voice).

Interview: Conducted concurrently with the audition. Applicants will discuss their previous musical experience, personal motivation and aspirations.

For international students

In addition to meeting the educational, artistic and academic prerequisites above, international applicants who have not completed an educational qualification in English should provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognised tests such as IELTS, or through satisfactory completion of an approved course at one of Excelsia's partner language colleges.

Overseas students applying for admission to Excelsia courses must have reached the age of 18 years by the commencement of their studies. Excelsia will not admit overseas students who have not yet reached 18 years of age.

For more information, visit our international student page: excelsia.edu.au/international/entry-into-australia/

For applicants with work and life experience, VET studies, and higher education

All applicants must demonstrate that they have been involved in some form of high-level music making. For more details on special entry requirements, please visit:
https://excelsia.edu.au/study/creative-and-performing-arts/bachelor-of-music-worship/

CREDIT AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

Please refer to the credit and RPL policies and procedures in the Admissions Framework.

"As Director of Avondale Conservatorium at Avondale University, I am deeply committed to a Christian world view and heavily invested in facilitating music and musicians in the Christian higher education context. I would like to take this opportunity to commend you on your inspiring vision to create a Bachelor of Music degree with a unique focus on music in the context of worship."

— Aleta King
Director of Avondale Conservatorium, Avondale University

BACHELOR OF MUSIC (WORSHIP)

FIRST-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Studio 1: Foundations in Performance
This unit introduces the basics of musical performance. You'll work on your instrumental or vocal technique in one-on-one lessons. Weekly ensemble rehearsals help you develop group work skills. You will also learn about stage setup, safety, and basic equipment handling so you are ready to go out in public and perform.

Elective 1: Versatile Musicians: Second Instrument Study 1
Choose between learning a second instrument in a collaborative setting or exploring the basics of songwriting. Both options let you expand your skills and creativity while complementing your core studies.

OR

Introduction to Songwriting
Introduction to Songwriting is an elective that introduces you to creating melodies, harmonies, and lyrics and getting your original songs ready to record and perform. You'll start by exploring iconic songs, genres and songwriters to help you understand techniques that make a great song. Through hands-on workshops, you'll experiment with songwriting – both on your own and in collaboration with others – using a range of instruments and digital tools. By the end, you'll have a collection of work ready to be recorded and shared with the world, setting the stage for your future as a professional songwriter.

Music Foundations (Aural and Keyboard)
In this unit you'll learn the essentials of musicianship, including aural skills, harmony, and keyboard techniques. Through sight-reading, improvisation, and harmonic analysis, you'll build a strong foundation for performance and composition.

SEMESTER TWO

Studio 2: Performance and Ensemble Practice ***(Pre-req: Studio 1: Foundations in Performance)***
Building on the skills you have learned in Studio 1, this unit helps you refine your performance and ensemble skills. You'll continue one-on-one lessons and tackle more complex repertoire ensembles. You will be introduced to operating sound systems, giving you practical experience for professional settings.

Understanding Popular Music
This unit explores the history, culture, and social impact of popular music. By analysing key genres and artists, you'll develop critical listening skills and a deeper appreciation for the music you love.

Introduction to Digital Music
In this unit you will be arranging music, writing charts and transcribing using industry-standard software and tools. You will be applying harmonic and aural skills in a digital context.

SECOND-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Worship Music in Practice 1
Worship Music in Practice 1 is the first of two second-year units designed for students in the Bachelor of Music (Worship) degree. The unit equips students with skills necessary to lead congregations in Christian worship services within the context of small ensembles relevant to contemporary churches across a range of denominational settings. The unit also develops biblical and theological understandings of the role of music in personal and corporate worship settings and the ability to critique worship processes and practices based on these understandings.

The unit is structured around the central themes underpinning personal and corporate worship expression in both Old and New Testament. These include God as Creator and Father; tabernacle/temple worship; the figure of King David; the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus; the Holy Spirit; and the church.

Harmony in Practice ***(Pre-reqs: Music Foundations; Introduction to Digital Music)***
This unit focuses on applying harmonic principles in contemporary music, with an emphasis on Western art music. You'll analyse, harmonise, and arrange music, deepening your understanding of musical structure and providing you with the opportunity to grow musically as a performer.

History of Western Art Music
This unit traces the development of Western art music, examining key composers, works, and stylistic movements. It provides a historical and cultural context for the music you perform.

SEMESTER TWO

Worship Music in Practice 2
Worship Music in Practice 2 is the second of two core second-year units designed for students in the Bachelor of Music (Worship) degree. The unit extends and refines students' ability to lead congregations in Christian worship services within the context of small ensembles relevant to contemporary churches across a range of denominational settings; and to collaboratively compose and record music relevant to the contemporary Christian music industry. The unit is structured around a project-based rationale including the production and live/digital launch of an EP of original worship music relevant to individual and congregational worship contexts. Students will refine skills relevant to musical and lyrical text analysis, arrangement, rehearsal, composition, recording, production and release of praise and worship music encompassing a breadth of historic, stylistic, and cultural understandings.

Jazz Harmony and Arranging ***(Pre-req: Music Foundations; Introduction to Digital Music)***
Explore the harmonic language and arranging techniques of jazz. Through

improvisation, voicing, and orchestration exercises, you'll expand your musical vocabulary and bring fresh ideas to your ensemble performances.

Theology of Worship
This unit explores the biblical and theological foundation for worship: a worshipful attitude, and the role of the worship facilitator, and servant-hearted leadership, particularly creating meaningful group or corporate worship experiences. Worship is the engagement with God and His community through proclaiming human dependence on God. The Bible remains the primary source underpinning the function of contemporary worship and its relationship to appropriately honouring God, pointing towards salvation, and unifying the body of believers. This unit will contextualise creative aspects of worship in a brief literature survey, in order to locate the integration of music and creative arts in corporate church life and the individual relationship with the Divine.

THIRD-YEAR UNITS

SEMESTER ONE

Worship Music Placement 1
Worship Music Placement 1 enables students to increase their understanding of the application of principles relevant to Christian worship in a local ministry or related industry setting. This unit is designed to facilitate the transition from Excelsia to a workplace through a 91-hour placement. As such, students are expected to assume a high level of personal responsibility in researching, selecting, and initiating potential worship placements. Such placements may include churches, youth groups, Christian music production studios and Christian community arts projects. Whatever the placement context, emphasis in the unit is placed on the acquisition of skills in discipleship within a Christian work context.

Musical Direction 1
The Musical Direction sequence comprises two units in which students examine all aspects of directing vocal and instrumental ensembles. In Musical Direction 1 (Choral) students have the opportunity to study the areas of planning, preparing, rehearsing and conducting a choral ensemble. Elements covered in both theory and practice include repertoire selection, the physiology of the voice, function and clarity of the beat, choral warm-up and aspects of breathing, phrasing and diction. The unit concludes with a substantial rehearsal and performance with the class choir.

Global Music Studies ***(Pre-req: History of Western Art Music)***
This unit delves into the rich diversity of global music traditions, using contemporary ethnomusicological methods to explore their cultural, social, and historical contexts. You will listen to and play music from various regions, developing critical listening skills and an understanding of cross-cultural influences.

Elective 2: Music Pedagogy
You will have the opportunity to implement practical teaching strategies and build a portfolio of resources for studio and ensemble settings.

OR

Elective 2: Music Business
This elective introduces you to the fundamentals of the music industry, covering key areas such as marketing, copyright, contracts, and career development. Students will gain practical insights into navigating the business side of music, preparing them for roles as performers, producers, or entrepreneurs.

SEMESTER TWO

Worship Music Placement 2
Worship Music Placement 2 enables students to increase their understanding of the application of principles relevant to Christian worship in a local ministry or related industry setting. This unit is designed to facilitate the transition from Excelsia to a workplace through a 91-hour placement. As such, students are expected to assume a high level of personal responsibility in researching, selecting, and initiating potential worship placements. Such placements may include churches, youth groups, Christian music production studios and Christian community arts projects. Whatever the placement context, emphasis in the unit is placed on the acquisition of skills in discipleship within a Christian work context.

Formation 2: Designing My Creative Career

This unit provides students with the opportunity to critically reflect on how a Christian framework can guide their creative and business practices and enable them to proactively draw from biblical principles to undergird their business aspirations. Through a multidisciplinary lens, this unit investigates the spiritual, mental, physical, financial, social, and career management competencies required to build a sustainable career in the arts in Australia.

This unit systematically integrates biblical principles, academic research, national arts policy and small business practices as it examines the place of the artist within the Australian context. In doing this it provides the foundations for students to engage in lifelong learning around their craft and aims to build a holistic framework of learning that supports students to engage in authentic, sustained creative employment consistent with their individual ethical framework, a Christian world view and personal values.
Students will not only engage with the lecture series and tutorials, but apply the concepts, activities and tools to their own creative practice, the building and/or refining of their own small business, and development of their digital portfolio in job-readiness. This unit is a formation stepping stone from college into the professional context within a Christian framing of business ethics and integrity.

Digital Music Production: Composing and Recording
In this unit you will move into advanced digital music production techniques, including composing, recording, and mixing. It connects to the technical skills developed in previous units, making sure you have the tools to create and produce your own music.

Master of MUSIC

Course duration:	2 years full-time/4 years part-time
Credit points:	96
Delivery:	On campus
Available to:	Domestic and international
CRICOS Code:	057961B
IELTS:	6.5 with no band less than 6.0
AQF:	Level 9
Financial information:	FEE-HELP available for domestic students
Course tuition fee:	International students: $10,411 semester/$41,644 total tuition fee

For more information, refer to our course fees page.

The Master of Music course is a program designed to deepen students' music and music-related knowledge, skills and capacities in their area of creative interest. Through personalised one-to-one mentoring and expert teaching, students are introduced to research skills related to their creative practice. The carefully curated suite of electives provides students with the opportunity to broaden their skills relevant to the construction of a working portfolio relevant to music industry and community contexts.
Students may exit the course after the first 4 units (one year full-time or two years part-time) in order to qualify for a Graduate Diploma of Music. The course is offered with three strands of specialisation: performance, contemporary composition, and community music.

The Master of Music degree contains:

- flexible study options; full-time or part-time; and mixed modes learning
- specialised teaching staff
- access to concert hall and recording facilities
- the opportunity to develop and refine your music making shaped by individualised learning plans designed to meet your career objectives.

For more details, refer to: excelsia.edu.au/courses/music/master-of-music

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For Australian applicants with recent secondary education (school leavers)

EDUCATIONAL PREREQUISITES

Successful completion of an accredited undergraduate degree in music or discipline appropriate to chosen focus area. Students may draw upon relevant industry experience to support their application.

ARTISTIC AND ACADEMIC SKILL ASSESSMENT

Performance focus

Candidates must demonstrate established technique on their chosen instrument (including conducting) by means of an audition. Applicants should be prepared to:

- present an audition of three contrasting pieces that demonstrate high-level instrumental or vocal technique and expressive interpretation relevant to their chosen genre.

Applicants may present a portfolio of previous performance experience which may include CD and DVD recordings.

Contemporary composition focus

Candidates applying to undertake the contemporary composition focus should be prepared to:

- present a portfolio of recordings of original compositions demonstrating a grasp of relevant genre-specific compositional techniques in both scored and audio formats
- discuss their portfolio of work with the admissions panel.

Community music focus

Candidates applying to undertake study with a focus in community music should be prepared to demonstrate practical and academic skills relevant to this area of study. Applicants should:

- present either a vocal, instrumental or conducting audition showcasing two contrasting pieces in either live or video format
- discuss their relevant community music experience with the auditions panel.

Assumed knowledge: Commensurate with successful completion of an undergraduate degree in music or related discipline.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For international students

In addition to meeting the educational, artistic and academic prerequisites above, international applicants who have not completed an educational qualification in English should provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognised tests such as IELTS, or through satisfactory completion of an approved course at one of Excelsia's partner language colleges.

Overseas students applying for admission to Excelsia courses must have reached the age of 18 years by the commencement of their studies. Excelsia will not admit overseas students who have not yet reached 18 years of age.

For more information, visit our international student page:
excelsia.edu.au/international/entry-into-australia/

For applicants with work and life experience, VET studies, and higher education

All applicants must demonstrate that they have been involved in some form of high-level music making. For more details on special entry requirements, please visit:
excelsia.edu.au/study/creative-and-performing-arts/master-of-music/

CREDIT AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

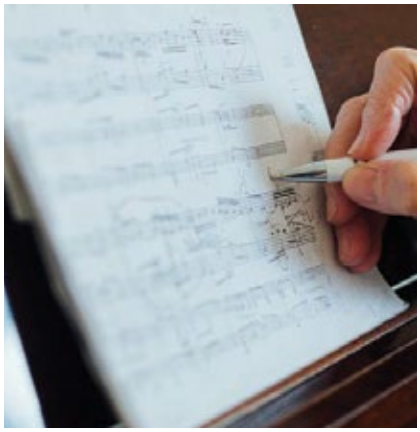
Please refer to the credit and RPL policies and procedures in the Admissions Framework.

THE MASTER OF MUSIC IS OFFERED WITH THREE STREAMS

PERFORMANCE

Students work on perfecting performances of increasing levels of challenge to industry standards. By honing their expressive, technical and academic skills, performers work one-on-one with a professional teacher to prepare a series of concerts featuring high-level solo and ensemble repertoire of their choosing. Students may specialise in jazz, contemporary or classical genres including conducting. A suite of electives is also available, offering additional study in cross-cultural performance, composition, music worship, music business, and music pedagogy.

CONTEMPORARY COMPOSITION



Students may undertake a range of composition options, allowing students to concentrate on both traditional and commercial aspects of the contemporary music industries. Students may compose for both live and digital media in a range of genres and mediums, refining their skills towards the completion of a final composition project. A suite of electives is also available, offering additional study in both solo and ensemble performance, music worship, music business, and music pedagogy.

COMMUNITY MUSIC

The purpose of the stream is to provide postgraduate study for musicians who seek to work in community music settings as ensemble directors, and/or with community music organisations who serve culturally diverse or marginalised people in settings ranging from co-curricular school groups, to aged care, churches, local councils, prisons and so on. Students gain practical experience in pedagogy relevant to ensemble settings through both performance and conducting, with a suite of electives available in performance, music worship, composition and music business. Students undertake a final community music placement in order to complete their study.

Units

Performance I – IV
This set of four core performance units facilitate study in the students' principal instrument, voice or in conducting skills. Students work with a professional tutor to maximise their skill outcomes to a professional level, presenting a series of concert performances of increasing depth and complexity in Western classical, jazz or contemporary performance genres.

Composition I – III
A series of three core composition units allow students to refine their skills in composing for both live and digital mediums in traditional art, jazz or in contemporary music styles. Students present their works in live, recorded and scored formats to audiences, refining original projects of increasing scope and complexity.

Music and Media
The Music and Media elective provides students with the opportunity to attain the conceptual understandings, creative awareness, professional discipline, and technical skills to compose music for various media including interactive UE/UI applications, advertising, and game platforms.

Music and the Moving Image
The Music and the Moving Image elective provides students with key conceptual, creative, analytical and technical understandings necessary for composing music for screen and television. Students undertake a collaborative project with final-year Bachelor of Screen Production students to compose original music for a short film, or complete a project of interactive game music.

Screen Sound Analysis
The Screen Sound Analysis elective provides students with the opportunity to undertake a comprehensive and informed study of the role of sound design and composition for screen mediums. Study combines in-depth historical, theoretical, analytical and practical elements, working towards the completion of screen soundtrack projects.

Music Industries Overview
Music Industries Overview provides students with the insights and skills necessary to navigate work in the music industries with a focus on artistic entrepreneurship and portfolio sustainability. Each student will develop a business plan in line with their musical interests and skills, with topics addressing the ways artists manage multiple income streams. The subject considers a variety of views and critiques of the industry with a focus on emerging trends, ethical considerations, and contingency planning for the future.

Cross-Cultural Performance
This elective unit provides practical learning for students in cross-cultural and world musics, as well as conceptual and critical thinking opportunities necessary for musicians who seek to work in diverse and inclusive music making communities. Students work in small ensembles to arrange, rehearse and perform music through cross-cultural collaboration, with an investigation of the ethical practices surrounding such work.

Music Pedagogy
This unit aims to develop and refine students' ability to teach music in a range of contexts from studio to community settings, addressing a variety of ages and ability levels from young children through to adult learners. The unit focuses on developing planning and reflective skills as well as designing resources applicable to a range of twenty-first-century music teaching situations.

Music in Worship
This elective unit introduces students to a range of philosophical, theoretical, theological, biblical and practical skills necessary to design, conduct and evaluate worship practices in the contemporary Christian church. Students undertake original research in churches as well as curating worship events appropriate to these settings.

Music in Community
Community music is generally characterised by non-formal music making spanning domains as diverse as local choirs, bands and orchestras, through to participatory music making which occurs in contexts as diverse as aged care facilities, rural folk festivals, prisons and churches. Students in the Community Music stream undertake this unit as a final semester work placement, applying skills in rehearsal management, conducting, arranging, concert organisation, business management, and grant writing in order to build the skills necessary to work as a community music facilitator.

Research Methods
Research skills are critical to facilitating lifelong learning, developing conceptual and investigative capacities at the postgraduate level, and to enhancing systematic attempts to understand, influence and improve professional creative practice. This core unit introduces research methods applicable to music practitioners, with students developing an original research proposal for implementation in their final capstone Research Project.

Research Project
Research Project is a final semester capstone unit that provides students with a comprehensive experience of research, while extending their knowledge, critical thinking and practical skills. Each student implements an original research project (designed in the Research Methods unit) which is related to their core interests and career aspirations in music. The completion of the project is closely supervised by an academic staff member.

Information about applications is available at: excelsia.edu.au/study/how-to-apply/

Step 1 Select the course
at: excelsia.edu.au/study/

Step 2 Check admission criteria

Step 3 Gather the required documents

Step 4 Complete application form

Step 5 Apply
Once you submit your application Excelsia staff will contact you within days to confirm receipt and talk through the next steps in the process.

EXCELSIA
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

excelsia.edu.au
info@excelsia.edu.au
+61 2 9819 8888

1 City View Road
Pennant Hills NSW 2120

ABN 50 360 319 774
TEQSA PRV12064
CRICOS CODE 02664K

The information contained in this course guide was accurate at the time of publication. Excelsia reserves the right to amend the material contained in this guide without notice in response to changing circumstances or for any other reason.
For most up-to-date course information please visit our website.