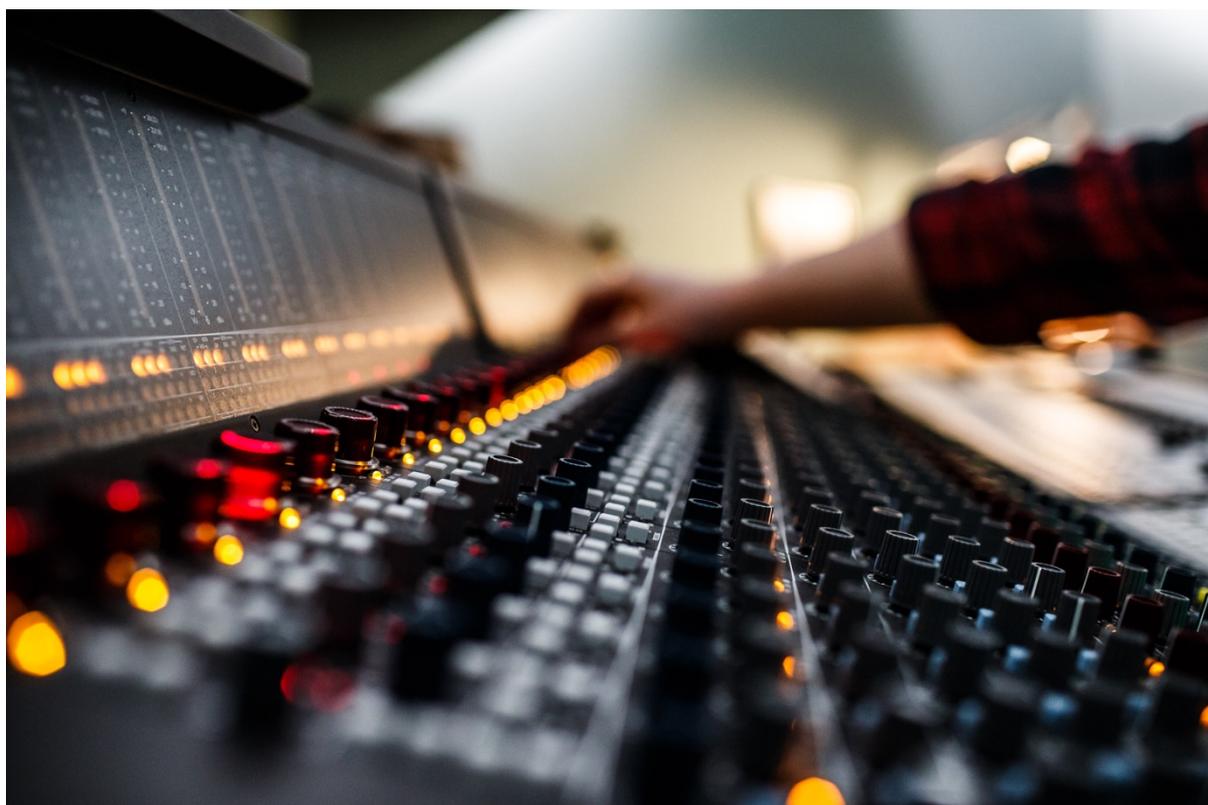


A Level Music Technology Bridging Task



Throughout your Music Technology studies you will be analysing a lot of music, both from a technological perspective, i.e., the recording and sound quality of the piece, as well as a musical perspective, i.e., the instruments, chords, melody, etc.

This is a skill that requires practice to develop, so it's good to get a head start over the summer before your studies to begin.

To prepare for this, we would like you to identify 2 tracks that you really like. One should be an older song (pre 1980s) and one should be modern (2000s onwards).

Be prepared to discuss your chosen tracks and findings with your Music Technology class in your first lessons at WSFC.

Once you have found two tracks, write a short paragraph for each track discussing the following:

- Musical characteristics of each recording (what instruments do you hear? How is the track structured? What is the texture like throughout the piece?)
- Recording characteristics – do you hear any effects on the recording like reverb or delay?
- Stereo – where are the instruments placed within the mix of the song? For example, when you focus, you might find the guitar is on the left but the vocals in the centre, whilst you hear the keyboard on the right, etc.

After you have done this, write a few sentences to compare the two different recordings and identify similarities/differences between them, in terms of musical content and recording characteristics. Why do you think they differ?

Please note: we understand you may not have much musical education or experience in Music Technology, so it is completely fine if you cannot answer the questions in lots of technical detail at this stage. This a skill we develop throughout the two years of the course, so don't panic! Just have fun with it.