

London College of Music Examinations

Music Diplomas

Requirements for Recorded Exams:

Recital & Concert Diplomas, Teaching Diplomas

Valid from:

Spring 2020 until further notice

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1. Overview

The following exam alternatives provide the opportunity for the assessment of musical performance, whereby candidates upload a video file of their performance, rather than attending an examination venue. Performances are assessed by trained LCME The examiner, using the same standards and criteria as are used for face-to-face, live exams. This offers candidates a reliable, independent, regulated assessment of their performance standard, while benefitting from the flexibility allowed by the submission process.

2. Entry Details

Candidates entered for a face-to-face exam may choose to switch to a recorded exam at no additional cost. Once candidates have recorded their exams, they can be uploaded via the LCME website. Please see *submission guidelines* (**page 12**) for details.

3. Performance Diplomas - Recorded Exam Requirements

DipLCM in Performance (Recital)

Component 1: Performance

80 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 25 to 30 minute recital accompanied by a written programme. Pieces should be chosen from a list of DipLCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Written programme

Candidates must produce, and bring to the examination, a written programme. This should comprise, for each piece performed:

- the composer
- the date of composition
- a brief description of the music, identifying any distinguishing features

A written programme must be supplied — if this is not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until it has been submitted to LCM Examinations.

Component 2: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a discussion about the music performed in Component 1. The candidate will be expected to demonstrate detailed technical and contextual knowledge about the repertoire. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of the performance at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 10.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

DipLCM in Performance (Concert)

Performance

100 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 30 to 40 minute recital accompanied by a written programme. Pieces should be chosen from a list of DipLCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Written programme

Candidates must produce, and bring to the examination, a written programme. This should comprise, for each piece performed:

- the composer
- the date of composition
- a brief description of the music, identifying any distinguishing features

A written programme must be supplied — if this is not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until it has been submitted to LCM Examinations.

ALCM in Performance (Recital)

Component 1: Performance

80 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 35 to 40 minute recital accompanied by programme notes for the music performed. Pieces should be chosen from a list of ALCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Programme notes

Candidates must produce and submit programme notes of approximately 1,000 words for the music performed. The programme notes should comprise brief biographical information about the performer and the composers, together with an outline commentary on the pieces being performed, including both background and analytical information.

Programme notes must be supplied — if these are not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until they have been submitted to LCM Examinations.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details on this component.

Component 2: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a discussion about the music performed in Component 1. The candidate will be expected to demonstrate detailed technical and contextual knowledge about the repertoire. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of the performance at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 10.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

ALCM in Performance (Concert)

Performance

100 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 40 to 50 minute recital accompanied by programme notes for the music performed. Pieces should be chosen from a list of ALCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Programme notes

Candidates must produce and submit programme notes of approximately 1,000 words for the music performed. The programme notes should comprise brief biographical information about the performer and the composers, together with an outline commentary on the pieces being performed, including both background and analytical information.

Programme notes must be supplied — if these are not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until they have been submitted to LCM Examinations.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details.

LLCM in Performance (Recital)

Component 1: Performance

80 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 45 to 50 minute recital accompanied by programme notes for the music performed. Pieces should be chosen from a list of LLCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Programme notes

Candidates must produce and submit programme notes of approximately 1,000 words for the music performed. The programme notes should comprise biographical information about the performer and the composers with a commentary on the pieces being performed, including both background and analytical information.

Programme notes must be supplied — if these are not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until they have been submitted to LCM Examinations.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details.

Component 2: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a discussion about the music performed in Component 1. The candidate will be expected to demonstrate detailed technical and contextual knowledge about the repertoire. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of the performance at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 10.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

LLCM in Performance (Concert)

Performance

100 marks

Candidates compile and perform a 50 to 60 minute recital accompanied by programme notes for the music performed. Pieces should be chosen from a list of LLCM pieces on the relevant repertoire list or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board. As part of the recital, candidates may choose one own choice work of a similar standard.

Programme notes

Candidates must produce and submit programme notes of approximately 1,000 words for the music performed. The programme notes should comprise biographical information about the performer and the composers with a commentary on the pieces being performed, including both background and analytical information.

Programme notes must be supplied — if these are not uploaded with the exam recording, candidates will not be awarded the diploma until they have been submitted to LCM Examinations.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details.

FLCM in Performance

Component 1: Performance

Candidates should compile and perform a 50 to 60 minute recital. The programme should be interesting, balanced and varied, and should be comprised of technically and musically demanding works, all of which should be fully inside the spectrum of professional repertoire.

Component 2: Programme notes

Candidates must produce and submit programme notes of approximately 3,000 to 3,500 words for the music performed. The programme notes should comprise biographical information about the performer and the composers, together with a commentary on the pieces being performed, which should include both background and analytical information.

No marks are awarded for FLCM diplomas. Both components must be approved in order to qualify for an award.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details.

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face diplomas. For further information see *How marks are awarded* in the LCME *Music Diplomas syllabus*.

Regulation

LCM's diplomas in music performance and teaching in most subjects are regulated in England by Ofqual, and other UK regulators. They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Submission

Please see *Submission Guidelines* (page 12).

DipLCM in Teaching

Component 1: Teaching

40 marks

Candidates submit a recording of themselves teaching a 20 minute lesson to a pupil.

Component 2: Presentation, Demonstration and Performance

40 marks

Presentation & demonstration

Candidates will be required to give a presentation of approximately 20 minutes in length, focusing principally on either two or three pieces taken from the current LCM Examinations repertoire lists for the instrument (Grades 1 to 8). This may include pieces used in Component 1. The presentation should also include some more general observations on the teaching of their instrument. The standard and number of pieces to be included is determined by the standard of pupil used in Component 1,

Performance

Candidates are required to perform one piece of Grade 7 standard or above, chosen from the current LCM repertoire list for their instrument or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board.

For further details on this section, see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus*.

Component 3: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a wide-ranging discussion which will be based on issues arising from either or both of Components 1 and 2. Some wider issues may also be introduced, however the discussion will focus primarily on the standard or level of pupil which was used in Component 1. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of Components 1 and 2 at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 11.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

ALCM in Teaching

Component 1: Teaching

30 marks

Candidates submit a recording of themselves teaching a 20 minute lesson to a pupil.

Component 2: Essay

20 marks

Candidates submit an extended essay of approximately 4,000 words, based on one of the titles listed in the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus*.

Component 3: Presentation, Demonstration and Performance

30 marks

Presentation & demonstration

Candidates will be required to give a presentation of approximately 30 minutes in length, on the general principles and approach to the teaching of their instrument. The presentation should focus on the same standard of pupil (in terms of level) as was used in Component 1, but may also incorporate references to other standards.

Performance

Candidates are required to perform one piece of Grade 8 standard or above, chosen from the current LCM repertoire list for their instrument or from the set list for the equivalent level syllabus of another accredited exam board.

For further details on this section, see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus*.

Component 4: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a wide-ranging discussion which will be based on issues arising from either or both of Components 1 to 3. Some wider issues may also be introduced, however the discussion will focus primarily on the standard or level of pupil which was used in Component 1. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of Components 1 to 3 at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 11.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

LLCM in Teaching

Component 1: Teaching

30 marks

Candidates submit a recording of themselves teaching a 30 minute lesson to a pupil.

Component 2: Dissertation

20 marks

Candidates submit a dissertation consisting of the following:

Case studies

Candidates submit case studies of three pupils. The period of observation and assessment should be a minimum of six months and a maximum of one year. Pupils should be of contrasting standards and abilities.

Analysis

Candidates submit a comparative analysis of all four pieces discussed and performed in Component 3. The length should be approximately 2,500 to 3,500 words. The analysis should mainly be presented in the form of continuous prose, although the use of tables, graphs, etc. is permitted. The use of musical examples is expected.

Essay

Candidates submit a short essay based on one of the titles from the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus*. The length should be approximately 1,000 to 1,500 words.

Please see the LCME *Music Diplomas Syllabus* for further details on this section.

Component 3: Presentation & demonstration

30 marks

Candidates will be required to give a presentation of approximately 30 minutes in length on the general principles and approach to the teaching of their instrument. The presentation should cover a range of different pupil standards, from beginner to Grade 8.

Component 4: Discussion

20 marks

The examiner will lead the candidate in a wide-ranging discussion which will be based on issues arising from either or both of Components 1 to 3. Some wider issues may also be introduced, however the discussion will focus primarily on the standard or level of pupil which was used in Component 1. The discussion component will be conducted online with a remote examiner following submission of Components 1 to 3 at a pre-arranged time and date. See *Specimen Discussion Questions* on page 11.

Please note that sight reading is not offered as an option for LCME recorded exams.

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face diplomas. For further information see *How marks are awarded* in the *LCME Music Diplomas Syllabus*.

Regulation

LCM's diplomas in music performance and teaching in most subjects are regulated in England by Ofqual, and other UK regulators. They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7.

5.1 Performance Diplomas - Specimen Discussion Questions

- Which is your favourite piece performed today and why?
- From which period of musical history does this piece come? What are some of the characteristics of the piece that indicate it is from this period?
- What is the form and key structure of this piece (or any piece selected from the performance given)?
- Tell me about the composer - do you know or play other pieces by them?
- What new technique (s) have you learned or developed by performing your repertoire today?
- What difficulties did you overcome in performing this piece?
- What did you particular feel pleased about with your performance today?
- What, if anything, were less pleased about?
- What inspires you to perform your music?
- Who has influenced you the most in your music/ playing?
- What is the interval between C sharp and F natural?
- What type of cadence is dominant V to tonic 1, dominant V to sub mediant VI?

5.2 Teaching Diplomas - Specimen Discussion Questions

- What do you think your pupil learned from the lesson you gave today?
- How effective do you think you were in communicating your points to your pupil?
- What advantages do you think can be gained by using a structured lesson plan?
- What is the importance of including in a lesson
 - Sight reading
 - Scales and arpeggios
 - Aural tests
 - General musicianship
- How do you encourage your students to practise effectively using a metronome?
- How important to you is giving praise during a lesson and why?
- What approach do you adopt for setting targets for a pupil for the next lesson/s?
- Did the outcome of the lesson meet your aims and objectives today? If not why was this?
- Tell me what you thought was successful in the lesson?
- What have you learned from the lesson, and what would you choose to do in a different way as a result?

Regarding the candidate's own performance:

- How would you evaluate your teaching today?
- Were you pleased with the performance of your pieces?
- What did you like about it?
- What, if anything, could be improved on the performance you gave today?

4. Submission Guidelines

- The whole performance component of the exam must be recorded in a single, uninterrupted take. For teaching diplomas the lesson and presentation components can be recorded as separate files.
- Performances must be recorded using a static camera, which should be positioned in such a way as to show the performer and their instrument clearly.
- Always make a short test recording first to ensure the audio signal is clear and not distorting or clipping and the video image is clear.
- The recording device's microphone must be of sufficient quality to allow assessment of all aspects of the performance, including tone quality and dynamic range.
- The microphone should be positioned in such a way as to ensure good sound balance between candidate and accompanist or backing track (if applicable).
- Typically a smartphone or tablet will be of perfectly sufficient quality here in terms of audio and video recording quality. We would recommend that you set your video camera resolution to 720p as this will ensure sufficient quality. A lower resolution than this (for instance 480p) might not have sufficient clarity, whilst a higher resolution (1080p or 4K) would result in an unnecessarily large file size.
- Music which is published with an accompaniment must be performed with that accompaniment. The accompaniment can be performed live on a piano/ keyboard, or pre-recorded, or a backing track may be used.
- When you are ready to submit your files please contact the LCME office (lcm.exams@uwl.ac.uk). A link to an upload folder will then be sent to you.
- File must be in either avi, flv, wmv, mov or mp4 format. Each file must be labelled clearly with the candidate's name and the name of the piece or component. For example:
 - Jane Smith DipLCM (TD) lesson component
 - Jane Smith ALCM (PD) performance component