London College of Music Examinations

Music in Worship Recorded Exams

Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar, Classical Guitar, Classical Singing, Drum Kit, Electric Guitar, Electronic Keyboard, Electronic Organ, Piano, Pipe Organ and Popular Music Vocals

Qualification specifications for:
Grades and Recital Grades

Valid from:
2026 until further notice

updated 04.11.2026

LCME
SINCE·1887

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Below is a record of updates made since release:

04.11.2026
The syllabus has been renamed Music in Worship (previously Church Music), and acoustic guitar has been added as a principal instrument option.

Music in Worship Recorded Exam Requirements

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1. Information and general guidelines

1.1 Introduction

This document outlines the requirements for Recorded Grades and Recital Grades in Music in Worship Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8, including technical work, set repertoire, and presentation topics. For information about in-person exams, the full performance guidelines and assessment criteria, please refer to the **Music in Worship Syllabus**.

Recorded Exams

Recorded exams provide the opportunity for the assessment of musical performance through the submission of a video recording, rather than attendance at an examination venue. Performances are assessed by trained LCME examiners using the same standards and criteria as for in-person examinations.

1.2 Validity

These specifications apply to Recorded Music in Worship exams (Grades and Recital Grades) from 1 September 2026 until further notice. Music in Worship grades are available for the following instruments: Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar, Classical Guitar, Classical Singing, Drum Kit, Electric Guitar, Electronic Keyboard, Electronic Organ, Piano, Pipe Organ and Popular Music Vocals.

1.3 Exam entry

Submission guidelines

Details of fees and how to book a digital exam are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Recording requirements

Details of what to include and how to film and upload recorded exams are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Age groups and requirements for prior learning

LCME graded exams are open to all and there are no minimum age restrictions. No prerequisite qualifications are required for entering any exam; candidates can enter at any level provided they have the required knowledge, skills and understanding.

Equity, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration

Information on assessment, examination and entry requirements for candidates with specific needs is published in the Equity, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration policy available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

1.4 Exam options

	Grades	Recital Grades
Technical Work	✓	×
Performance	3 items	4 or 5 items
Oral presentation	✓	Optional for Component 2
Structure	Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8	Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8
Prerequisites	×	×
Assessment	Digital Recorded	Digital Recorded
Grading	Distinction: 85–100% Merit: 75–84% Pass: 65–74%	Distinction: 85–100% Merit: 75–84% Pass: 65–74%
Regulation	✓	✓
UCAS points	Grades 6 and 8	Grades 6 and 8

1.5 Assessment and results

Assessment

Exams are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed in the assessment and regulations section in the **Music in Worship Syllabus**.

Marking

Qualifications are awarded by the University of West London (UWL). Exams are conducted by trained examiners. Candidates will be assessed on their technical accomplishment, musical knowledge, musicality and communication. In awarding marks, examiners will take into account the extent to which each of these assessment objectives is demonstrated within each exam component.

Issue of results

Candidates will be informed of the result of examinations as soon as possible. Results are available soon after the examination and certificates for successful candidates are normally dispatched within eight weeks of the date of the examination.

Enquiries, complaints and appeals

Information on how to make an enquiry, complaint or appeal is published in the relevant policies available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Exam regulations

Full details of all general exam regulations are published in the Regulations and Information document available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

1.6 Performance guidelines

Refer to the relevant details listed in the **Music in Worship Syllabus**.

1.7 Recording requirements

Please refer to the relevant guidance on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**. This covers essential information on how to film your exam, as well as advice on preparation, equipment, and recording quality.

2. Recorded Exam requirements

2.1 Recorded Grade Exams

This overview outlines the components that candidates will encounter in the exam. For detailed information, please refer to the requirements on the following pages.

Recorded Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8

• **Component 1: Technical Work**

Performance of the set requirements for recorded digital exams for the relevant grade on the candidate's principal instrument. The requirements for each instrument can be found in the relevant Digital Recorded syllabus which are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

• **Component 2: Performance**

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade.

• **Component 3: Oral presentation**

Candidates should present a short oral presentation.

Component weightings

Technical Work	Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Oral presentation
15%	25%	25%	25%	10%

2.2 Recorded Recital Grades

Recorded Recital Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8

Recital grades are performance-focused graded exams, using the same repertoire and supplementary test requirements, with the format set out below.

• Component 1: Performance

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade, together with a fourth 'own choice' piece of similar standard which might be used as part of worship.

• Component 2: Performance or Oral presentation

Candidates choose one of the following options:

- Option 1: Performance of an additional piece from any list of the same grade
- Option 2: Oral presentation, as per the corresponding grade

Component weightings

Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Performance 4	Performance 5
20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

If discussion is selected in component 2 weightings are as follows:

Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Performance 4	Oral Presentation
22%	22%	22%	22%	12%

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1 to 7 and attract UCAS points accordingly.

Grade 2

Component 1: Technical Work — 15 marks

Performance of the set requirements for recorded digital exams for the relevant grade on the candidate's principal instrument. The requirements for each instrument can be found in the relevant Digital Recorded syllabus which are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Component 2: Performance — 75 marks

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade.

Component 3: Oral Presentation — 10 marks

Candidates should present a short oral presentation of approx. 1–2 mins addressing the points below. All questions should be answered after the performance section:

- Indicate examples of some of the following in the music performed: staff, bars and bar-lines, clefs, pitches of individual notes, rhythmic values of notes and rests (including dotted notes), key and time signatures, accidentals, dynamics, articulation markings, phrases, ornaments, and any additional markings
- Explain how you chose your programme and put it together
- Explain how each item might be used in the context of a service or act of worship

Grade 4

Component 1: Technical Work — 15 marks

Performance of the set requirements for recorded digital exams for the relevant grade on the candidate's principal instrument. The requirements for each instrument can be found in the relevant Digital Recorded syllabus which are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Component 2: Performance — 75 marks

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade.

Component 3: Oral Presentation — 10 marks

Candidates should present a short oral presentation of approx. 2–3 mins addressing the points below. All questions should be answered after the performance section:

- Indicate examples of some of the following in the music performed: pitches of individual notes,
- Intervals up to and including an octave by numerical value only, rhythmic values of notes and rests (including dotted notes), key and time signatures, accidentals, dynamics, articulation markings, phrases, ornaments, and any additional markings
- Describe the mood or character of each piece using appropriate descriptive terminology ('fast and lively', 'gentle and flowing', 'like a dance', etc.); identify contrasts of mood within items and discuss any descriptive element of the music
- Discuss approaches to learning the items, and identify any difficulties (musical or technical) which were encountered
- Explain how each item might be used in the context of a service or act of worship

Grade 6

Component 1: Technical Work — 15 marks

Performance of the set requirements for recorded digital exams for the relevant grade on the candidate's principal instrument. The requirements for each instrument can be found in the relevant Digital Recorded syllabus which are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Component 2: Performance — 75 marks

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade.

Component 3: Oral Presentation — 10 marks

Candidates should present a short oral presentation of approx. 3–4 mins addressing the points below. All questions should be answered after the performance section:

- Indicate examples of some of the following in the music performed: intervals up to and including an octave by number and type, key and time signatures, dynamics, articulation markings, phrases, ornaments, melodic and harmonic features (e.g. sequence, melodic inversion, circle of 5ths, pedal points, modulations, etc.), formal structures (e.g. ternary, binary, verse structures, etc.), major and minor chords occurring in the music as chords or as melodic patterns, the constituent pitches of chord symbols
- Identify the approximate dates of the music performed, and historical period (Renaissance, Baroque, etc.) if appropriate
- Explain how each item might be used in the context of a service or act of worship
- Discuss your personal response to the music performed: the extent to which you like or dislike it, or find it challenging or rewarding, and why
- Discuss approaches to learning the music, including the use of certain techniques or aspects of interpretation
- Demonstrate a self-critical awareness of your performance, indicating which aspects you were happy or unhappy with, and why

Grade 8

Component 1: Technical Work — 15 marks

Performance of the set requirements for recorded digital exams for the relevant grade on the candidate's principal instrument. The requirements for each instrument can be found in the relevant Digital Digital Recorded syllabus which are available on our website: **lcme.uwl.ac.uk**

Component 2: Performance — 75 marks

Performance of three items as set out in the **Music in Worship Syllabus** for the relevant grade.

Component 3: Oral Presentation — 10 marks

Candidates should present a short oral presentation of approx. 1–2 mins addressing the points below. All questions should be answered after the performance section:

- Indicate examples of some of the following in the music performed: intervals by number and type, melodic and harmonic features (e.g. sequence, melodic inversion, circle of 5ths, pedal points, modulations, etc.), formal structures (e.g. ternary, binary, verse structures, etc.), more complex chords, including sevenths and dissonances, occurring in the music as chords or as melodic patterns, the constituent pitches of more complex chord symbols, cadences
- Give basic biographical information about the composers of the music performed and demonstrate knowledge of other music by the same composers
- Explain how each item might be used in the context of a service or act of worship
- discuss your personal response to the music performed: the extent to which you like or dislike it, or find it challenging or rewarding, and why
- Discuss approaches to learning the music, including the use of certain techniques or aspects of interpretation
- Demonstrate a self-critical awareness of your performance, indicating which aspects you were happy or unhappy with, and why



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