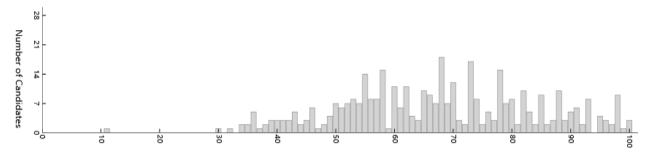




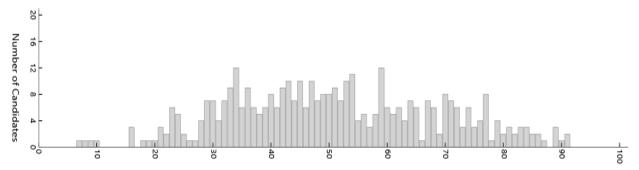
Summary report of the 2016 ATAR course examination: Music

Year	Number who sat all examination components			Number absent from all examination components
	Contemporary Music	Jazz	Western Art Music (WAM)	2
2016	80	26	268	

Examination score distribution-Practical



Examination score distribution-Written



Summary

Candidates completed a practical and written examination.

Practical examination

The range of practical examinations consisted of: Option 1: Performance, Option 2: Composition portfolio, Option 3: Performance and composition portfolio and Option 4: Two performances. The spread of marks ranged from 11.44% to 67.13% and the standard deviation was 16.60%.

Attempted by 371 candidates	Mean 67.13%(/100)	Max 100.00%	Min 11.44%
Option 1: Performance Attempted by 355 candidates Section means were:	Mean 67.57%(/100)	Max 100.00%	Min 11.44%
Technique Style/Expression Program requirements	Mean 25.15(/40) Mean 32.93(/50) Mean 9.50(/10)	Max 40.00 Max 50.00 Max 10.00	Min 4.44 Min 0.00 Min 5.00

Due to the small candidature of the Option 2, 3 and 4 examinations, no statistical analysis of these examinations has been provided.

Written examination

The written examination consisted of three sections: Section One (common to all contexts), Section Two Parts A, B(i) and B(ii) (context-specific) and Section Three (context-specific). Candidates were required to attempt all questions in the paper. The spread of marks ranged from 7.45% to 91.19% and the standard deviation was 17.91%.

Attempted by 374 candidates	Mean 51.43%(/100)	Max 91.19%	Min 7.45%			
Section means were:						
Section One: Aural and analysis						
Attempted by 373 candidates	Mean 17.75(/36)	Max 35.37	Min 1.26			
Section Two: Cultural and historical analysis Part A: Analysis						
Attempted by 373 candidates	Mean 5.09(/11)	Max 10.45	Min 0.00			
Section Two: Cultural and historical analysis Part B(i): Compulsory area of study						
Attempted by 370 candidates	Mean 5.17(/11)	Max 11.00	Min 0.00			
Section Two: Cultural and historical analysis Part B(ii): Non-compulsory area of study						
Attempted by 360 candidates	Mean 5.94(/12)	Max 12.00	Min 0.00			
Section Three: Theory and composition						
Attempted by 374 candidates	Mean 17.81(/30)	Max 28.82	Min 1.18			

Section means for each context were:

Section	Contemporary Music	Jazz	Western Art Music
One: Aural and analysis	12.58(/36)	18.85(/36)	19.20(/36)
Two: Part A Analysis	6.72(/11)	5.65(/11)	4.54(/11)
Two: Part B(i) Compulsory area of study	5.51(/11)	5.08(/11)	5.08(/11)
Two: Part B(ii) Non-compulsory area of study	5.53(/12)	5.73(/12)	6.09(/12)
Three: Theory and composition	14.77(/30)	16.80(/30)	18.82(/30)

General comments

Practical examination

Candidates were well prepared generally for the performance examination with some outstanding instrumental performances. By comparison, the standard of the composition portfolio submissions was quite low.

Advice for candidates

- Make sure that you arrive in good time for your examination and that you use the warm-up time provided wisely.
- Ensure that you comply with the procedural requirements of the examination in relation to the use of a mobile phone.
- Ensure that the scores you are using do not contain any information that can identify you, other individuals or your school.

Advice for teachers

- Check the score/s used by a student to ensure that the written score actually reflects
 what is being performed. It can be helpful to note ornamentation, dynamics and the
 structure underlying improvisations.
- Give students plenty of opportunities to perform in public and become accustomed to engaging with an audience.

General comments

Written examination

Although the mean of the examination was higher this year than in recent years, the demonstration of aural and analytical skills in Section One and Section Two continues to be mediocre. It is particularly concerning to note that the two lowest examination component means achieved were based on content that addressed the compulsory area of study. By comparison, the performance of candidates on Section Three was more encouraging.

Advice for candidates

- Ensure that you are familiar with each of the compositional devices.
- Familiarise yourself with the structure and themes of the compulsory designated works, particularly with differences in how themes are presented at different points in a work.
- Practise writing accompaniments for melodies, using piano and instrumental groups.

Advice for teachers

- Focus on the development of students' aural and analysis skills and continue to reinforce these skills throughout the year.
- Ensure that students are familiar with chord progressions in minor keys and that they can write Roman numerals correctly i.e. using serifs for upper case/major chords and dotting the letter 'i' when it is used in lower case/minor chords.
- When teaching a work in a particular genre make sure that you focus on the place of that work in the development of the genre.
- Ensure that you are teaching the designated works that are listed in the *Music ATAR* Year 11 and Year 12 Designated works lists 2016–2018 document.
- Revisit the Written examination design brief Year 12 in the syllabus to ensure that you are familiar with the structure of the examination and the expectations of each section of the examination. In particular, focus on teaching the art of writing extended paragraphs for Section Two Part B(ii). Encourage students to work to the space provided in the examination and to be explicit and succinct in their response to a question.

Comments on specific sections and questions Practical examination

Option 1: Performance

Technique

Attempted by 355 candidates Mean 25.15(/40) Max 40.00 Min 4.44 Overall, the proficiency of candidates in relation to technique was varied. This was evident in the scope of marks awarded for each criterion. Candidates performed most strongly on the rhythm criterion.

Style/Expression

Attempted by 355 candidates Mean 32.93(/50) Max 50.00 Min 0.00 Some candidates displayed outstanding style/expression in their performance. Performances with accompaniment typically featured effective musical interaction. Those who performed solo often displayed appropriate levels of voicing within the overall texture. The level of stylistic interpretation demonstrated across the contexts was generally pleasing.

Program requirements

Attempted by 355 candidates Mean 9.50(/10) Max 10.00 Min 5.00 Most candidates complied with all requirements and presented an effective repertoire.

Written examination

Section One: Aural and analysis

Attempted by 373 candidates Mean 17.75(/36) Max 35.37 Min 1.26 The overall performance of candidates on this section of the examination continues to be of concern, and in particular, the significantly lower results achieved by candidates of the Contemporary Music context. A noticeable trend was that many candidates had difficulty with questions that involved minor keys.

Context means were:

Contemporary: Attempted by 80 candidates	Mean 12.58(/36)	Max 33.47	Min 2.53
Jazz: Attempted by 26 candidates	Mean 18.85(/36)	Max 33.47	Min 6.32
WAM: Attempted by 267 candidates	Mean 19.20(/36)	Max 35.37	Min 1.26

Section Two: Part A Analysis

Attempted by 373 candidates Mean 5.09(/11) Max 10.45 Min 0.00 The poor performance of Western Art Music candidates in this part of the examination was notable.

Context means were:

Contemporary: Attempted by 80 candidates	Mean 6.72(/11)	Max 10.45	Min 3.85
Jazz: Attempted by 26 candidates	Mean 5.65(/11)	Max 10.45	Min 1.65
WAM: Attempted by 267 candidates	Mean 4.54(/11)	Max 9.35	Min 0.00

Section Two: Part B(i) Compulsory area of study

Attempted by 370 candidates Mean 5.17(/11) Max 11.00 Min 0.00 Given that the focus of this part of the examination is the compulsory area of study, it was surprising and disappointing to observe that many candidates were unable to respond competently to the score provided or the questions relating to it.

Context means were:

Contemporary: Attempted by 79 candidates	Mean 5.51(/11)	Max 9.90	Min 0.55
Jazz: Attempted by 26 candidates	Mean 5.08(/11)	Max 9.84	Min 0.58
WAM: Attempted by 265 candidates	Mean 5.08(/11)	Max 11.00	Min 0.00

Section Two: Part B(ii) Non-compulsory area of study

Attempted by 360 candidates Mean 5.94(/12) Max 12.00 Min 0.00 The second highest mean was achieved in this part of the examination. Candidates generally displayed a sound understanding of how a genre has developed over time and how individual composers and performers have contributed to that genre. Some candidates did not follow the direction to give specific examples from a designated work to support their response though. It was pleasing to note that very few candidates discussed the compulsory genre or provided examples from incorrect designated works.

Context means were:

Contemporary: Attempted by 80 candidates	Mean 5.53(/12)	Max 11.25	Min 0.38
Jazz: Attempted by 25 candidates	Mean 5.73(/12)	Max 10.12	Min 0.75
WAM: Attempted by 255 candidates	Mean 6.09(/12)	Max 12.00	Min 0.00

Section Three: Theory and composition

Attempted by 374 candidates Mean 17.81(/30) Max 28.82 Min 1.18 The highest mean for the examination was achieved in this section.

Context means were:

Contemporary: Attempted by 80 candidates	Mean 14.77(/30)	Max 25.41	Min 1.22
Jazz: Attempted by 26 candidates	Mean 16.80(/30)	Max 26.56	Min 3.75
WAM: Attempted by 268 candidates	Mean 18.82(/30)	Max 28.82	Min 1.18