Learning through practicals

**Student 1**

Yeah I've got a practical most days. I'd say four out of five days of the week and they normally last around two hours, some, one or two of them, are three hours long. And on the odd day I might have two practicals.

**Student 2**

You get a choice and in first year especially you get to choose, erm, what type, what path, you want to go go down. And so, for example, you can either chose to write a dissertation, you could do a composition, or you could chose to put on a recital. And, erm, so there's always this sort of practical element because music it itself is practical and needs to be made and needs to be heard. Erm, so there, there, there is this element that, erm, students … that students can chose to go down any way. So it's not just a matter of writing essays but you're also producing and interacting with music itself.

**Student 3**

Those are somewhat supervised but you also have access to some experts in case you've got any problems. And of course other students, they can be very useful if you're struggling. So in your programming labs you'll have a set assignment and you just have to work through. You don't have to work there and then, you can always go home and work on it later on. And then once you've submitted it and it's passed the tester, you'll then have to explain your code a little bit, erm, in order to get your mark.