

MUS 232 - Introduction to the Sound Studio
Fall 2007
Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:45
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course involves obtaining an inside-out understanding of the CMP sound studio facilities: the recording and composition studios. What you learn will give you a solid foundation for further recording and/or electroacoustic music courses. It will also *begin* to prepare you for working professionally and/or creatively in audio production, music technology, and related fields. You will also be able to begin serious studio work without getting bogged down in technical confusion, or without becoming mired in the psychic trauma that “being lost” always seems to engender in those uninitiated to the world of audio and music technology.

You will be learning about two different but related aspects of working within the CMP studios:

- 1) Learning all of the technical aspects of the studio, including cabling, gear, monitor and headphone systems, inter- and intra-gear signal flow, and the analog consoles. This will help you to be able to troubleshoot, problem-solve, and/or otherwise improvise your way through most situations.
- 2) Learning about studio responsibilities and etiquette, including session planning, preproduction, set-up and break down, cleaning the studio, and taking “ownership” of the gear. This will also include how to work/deal with other people involved in the production process.

GENERAL INFO

Although split into two sections, this course will be taught as a single unit. Students in each section will meet regularly with both instructors. Quizzes, exams, assignments, etc. will be identical in content in both sections. Final projects will be chosen by each student in accordance with the guidelines distributed in class.

TEXTS

Stanley R. Alten, *Audio In Media*, 8th. Ed., Wadsworth
Other readings, as assigned, online or on library reserve

EXPECTATIONS CONCERNING STUDENT WORK

- 1) Students will attend all classes, and arrive prior to the class time in order to begin class on time. Late arrivals are rude, disrespectful, and disruptive – they will not be tolerated. More than five minutes late will count as an absence for the day. A maximum of two absences will be allowed before the student’s grade is affected. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in on the roll sheet provided at each class meeting.
- 2) Students will be responsible for completing readings, assignments, and projects. While acknowledging and allowing for special circumstances, students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the due date. Late assignments will receive partial credit.
- 3) The attached semester schedule includes dates of reading assignments, course topics, and major assignments. The dates listed are when the assignment, reading, topic, etc., is due and/or will be discussed in class. Students are expected to keep current on all reading assignments in advance of associated in-class discussions, demos, etc.
- 4) There will be 1 (one) mid-term, and 1 (one) final exam. The general content of each will be covered in a study sheet to be distributed approximately 1 (one) week before the exam dates. The midterm will be a

written exam and a 'hands-on' functional proficiency test; the final will be practical 'hands-on' tasks with verbal questions, and a final project.

5) There will be any number of pop quizzes over the course of the term, to be determined by class progress and preparedness, time, and instructor's whim; the less prepared the students appear to be, the more likely pop quizzes will become. Be prepared!

GRADING

Participation	20%
Quizzes/Assignments	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
<u>Final Exam/Project</u>	<u>30%</u>
Final Grade	100%

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The College of Santa Fe makes every effort to provide appropriate accommodations for students with documented disabilities in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Students may receive the accommodations if they contact their professor and register with the Disabilities Services Coordinator at the Center for Academic Excellence.

NOTE

All reasonable attempts will be made to adhere to the schedule & information in this syllabus and schedule. However, the instructor reserves the right to make changes, accommodations, and adaptations based on a number of factors including class progress, special opportunities, etc., as well as occurrences outside the instructor's control.