

Electroacoustic Music I
MUS 332 01

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
4 credits
Location: Benildus 238 (Composition Studio)

Instructor: Steven M. Miller

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Syllabus

Abstract

This course will simultaneously focus on the aesthetic and musical considerations of electroacoustic media as well as on developing the prerequisite theoretical knowledge and practical technical facility with the studio equipment. This broad focus will provide an appropriate historical, aesthetic, and technical basis to support further exploration into composition and performance with electro-acoustic media.

Required Texts

- Pellman, Samuel. *An Introduction to the Creation of Electroacoustic Music*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1994.
- Manning, Peter. *Electronic and Computer Music*, Revised and Expanded Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Other readings on reserve or online, as assigned.

Expectations Concerning Student Work

- 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.
- The course semester schedule includes dates of course topics, reading assignments, assignments, and projects. The dates listed are when the assignment, reading, topic, etc., is due and/or will be discussed in class.
- Students will be responsible for completing all assignments. 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 half-credit.
- Reading assignments are *not* optional. Students are expected to keep current on all reading assignments in advance of associated in-class discussions, demos, etc. Continuous progress on readings is essential to pass the course. Ample time in class will be given for questions and discussion on the readings.
- Missing the midterm or final exam due to an unexcused absence will be grounds for failing the course.

Assignments, Presentations, Projects, Quizzes, Exams

- There will be regular weekly creative hands-on assignments, due on Thursdays. Each student will complete these projects individually, during assigned studio time reserved for the duration of the semester. Additional studio time may be reserved on a weekly basis.
- Each student will do 2 in-class presentations.
 - 1 will be a short introductory presentation on a reading topic in the syllabus, chosen by the student in collaboration with the instructor. Presentations will be approximately 10-15 minutes in duration, and will be accompanied by a written outline and 2 discussion questions presented to the class.
 - Each student will do a presentation on his or her final project during the 14th week of the semester. These presentations will be approximately 15-20 minutes in duration, and will be accompanied by a written outline and complete project documentation.
- There will be 3 major creative projects assigned during the semester.
 - Musique Concrète étude/composition (sound collage)
 - Mid-term project: Tape music composition
 - Final project: Electroacoustic (analog synthesis) composition
- 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 I will be to indulge my whim. Be prepared!
- There will be 1 (one) mid-term, and 1 (one) final written exam. The general content of each will be covered in a study sheet to be distributed approximately 2 (two) weeks before the exam dates.

Grading

Assignments, Quizzes	20%
Presentations	20%
Projects	30%
Midterm/Final Exams	30%
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 Service Coordinator at the Center for Academic Excellence.

Note

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