

Digital Audio II
Audio 121 - Spring 2015

Instructor: Steve Gamberoni

Office Hours: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and by appointment

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Course objectives and content: This class will provide intermediary instruction in digital audio workstations. Instruction will consist of demonstrations, discussions, lectures and "hands-on" work. At the completion of this course, students will be able to work through short assignments and longer projects demonstrating recording, editing, and mixing skills on Pro Tools software.

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Audio 117 and 120.

Schedule: Classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. in the MIDI lab (building 15/rm. 115).

Grading: Midterm **25%**, Final **30%**, Quizzes **10%**, Projects: **25%**, Assignments **10%**

Attendance Policy: As with any class, showing up prepared and on time is crucial to success. Attendance will be taken at each class. **Anyone with 2 unexcused absences will have their grade lowered one letter; 5 or more unexcused absences will result in failure.** (Please see attendance policy below). **Note: No make-ups for unexcused absences!**

Textbooks/Required Materials: *Pro Tools 110 v11 Official Courseware* by Digidesign and Frank D. Cook and a notebook (to take notes - of course). Additional materials, due dates, and class info will be available online in the classroom syllabus for this course and Canvas (ccs.instructure.com).

The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus due to extenuating circumstances or by mutual agreement between the instructor and the students.

Semester Schedule

Class	Subject	Objectives	Reading Assign's
Week 1	System Configuration	Introduction of instructor. Class objectives and expectations for the term explained. Review Edit and Mix window display options. Demonstrate setting up custom signal paths with the I/O set up. Demonstrate configuring MIDI with AMS/MSS. Overview of ways to improve host based performance.	Read Chaps. 1
Week 2	Managing Sessions and Tracks	Explain digital clock source options and wordclock. Configure Hardware set-up. Examine options for importing audio files. Explain the import session data command. Import tracks from other sessions.	Read Chaps. 2
Week 3/4	MIDI/Audio Recording	Demonstrate how to change the default session tempo, and add tempo and meter changes. Demonstrate auto-punch. Discuss record modes. Use step input and Loop record options to program MIDI parts.	Read Chp 3 and 4
Week 5	MIDI Editing	Overview of MIDI track views. Edit MIDI notes, velocity and CC data. Set up region loops and groups. Add "feel" to programmed parts with groove quantize functions.	Read Chp 5
Week 6/7	Audio Editing/ Creating a Tempo Map	Introduction to Beat Detective/ Elastic Audio. Use BD/ Elastic Audio to edit drum tracks. Manage Audio Clips with Clip List commands. Overview of Fade functions. Create batch fades and edit fades on tracks. Review AudioSuite plug-ins.	Take Midterm Read Chp 6 and 7
Week 8	Automation	Overview of automation modes. Create automated mixes. Edit automation data in real time and graphically.	Read Chp 8
Week 9/10	Mixing	Overviews of inserts. Review plug-in types and demonstrate use. Set up automated effects. Demonstrate use of mix/edit groups and sub-grouping while mixing.	Read Chp 9 and 10
Week 11	Printing the Mix and Review	Identify traits of professional mixes. Critical listening: students assess their own mixes and identify strengths, and areas for improvement. Examine different techniques/ options for recording a mix.	
Week 12	Finals		Take finals. Note: final is cumulative.

Assignment/Project Summary

Students will work through a variety of assignments to help them master the subject material. Assignments are mainly comprised of exercises and discussion questions from the 110-text book. If the assignments are completed entirely and submitted on time then full credit will be given. Assignments submitted late or only partially completed will have points deducted at the discretion of the instructor. Assignments will account for 10% of the overall grade. Students will also work through longer form projects to help further develop editing and mixing abilities. Details about the projects, including due dates will be given in class. Projects will account for 25% of the overall grade.

Please keep in mind that it won't be possible to complete all the projects and Pro Tools assignments during class time. You will have to use the MIDI Lab during open hours to finish your work, unless you have a Pro Tools system at home to work on. Please make note of the open lab times and plan your schedule accordingly. Manage your time wisely so that you can complete your projects and assignments by the dead lines. I understand that students have to work to make ends meet, but if work takes priority over your education, leaving you no time to study or do the assignments and projects - it would be better for you to drop the class then to always turn in incomplete, poorly done work that was rushed through at the last minute or worse yet, not turned in at all. There is no benefit to that kind of behavior and it's ultimately a waste of time and money. So a choice must be made - is education important to you or not? If the answer is yes, and I hope it is, then I expect students to put in the required time and effort in their course work.

Plagiarism and Cheating Policies

Cheating: Any dishonesty or deception fulfilling an academic requirement such as:

1. Use and/or possession of unauthorized material; or technology during an examination.
2. Obtaining assistance with or answers to examination questions from another person with or without that person's knowledge.
3. Furnishing assistance with or answers to examination questions for another person.
4. Possessing, using, distributing, or selling unauthorized copies of examinations or computer programs.

Plagiarism:

1. Submitting another's published or unpublished work, in whole or in part or through paraphrase as one's own without fully and properly crediting the author through footnotes, citations or bibliographical reference.
2. Submitting as one's own original work, material obtained from an individual, agency or website without reference to the original document as the source of the material.
3. Submitting as one's own original work, material that has been produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others without the written release from the collaborators.

Consequences:

1. First offenders will receive a failing grade on the affected test, or assignment. Documentation regarding this offense will be placed in the student's file.
2. Second offenses may result in the student being dismissed from the course.
3. Subsequent offenses may result in the student being suspended or dismissed from the school.

Attendance Policy

*An excused absence is defined as those that are pre-approved by the instructor, that is when the instructor is informed of the absence prior to the class, or in cases such as a family emergency, serious illness documented by a doctor, or other similar reason. Absences not meeting these criteria are considered unexcused.

*If you wish to have your absence excused, please present supporting documentation and/or a brief statement addressed to the instructor. Once the instructor has made a determination you will be given a response.

*If a student has an unexcused absence on the day of a test or when an assignment or project is due, the student will receive a 0 grade for that particular assessment.

*If a student shows up five minutes or more after the class starts, the student will be considered late; after 20 minutes - absent. Showing up late two times will count as one unexcused absence.