

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2015
MUSC*2100-02
CREATING MUSIC ON THE COMPUTER



INSTRUCTOR: C. McKittrick
TIME: Tuesday & Thursday; 2:30 – 3:50pm
LOCATION: Alexander Hall, Room 071
OFFICE: Alexander Hall, Room 072
PHONE: Extension 53078
EMAIL: cmckittr@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment
LAB HOURS: To be scheduled in the first week of classes

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to computer technologies as they apply to the creation and manipulation of music. Topics will be drawn from the areas of sound synthesis and processing, recording, encoding, and transcription. The course will include a classroom and an applied component.

Prerequisite(s): MUSC*1180 or MUSC*2180. Some computer experience is recommended.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

To give students an overview of the scope of music technology through practical exposure to a variety of software and hardware components, along with their theoretical concepts, terminology, and relevant history, including important recordings.

BACKGROUND SKILLS:

Basic music theory and rudiments. Keyboard skills an asset. Performance skills on any instrument welcome. Rudimentary knowledge of computer operating systems.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

To give students an overview of the scope of music technology through practical exposure to a variety of software and hardware components, along with their theoretical concepts, terminology, and relevant history, including important recordings.

Aims:

- To develop an understanding of concepts of digital audio and music technology that are more universal than the particulars of the equipment and software used in the course
- To learn about and apply some of the processes involved in making music with computers
- To listen to innovative electroacoustic works of all styles and learn to identify production techniques through critical aural analysis.

REQUIRED TEXT:

1. Hosken, Dan; *Music and Technology and the Project Studio: synthesis and sampling*; ISBN: 978-041587829. Published by: Routledge.

LAB FEE:

A compulsory materials fee of \$20.00 will be charged for materials and services provided in support of required course projects. The amount will be invoiced by the Office of the Bursar and paid directly with your tuition payment – no additional payment is necessary. **THE LAB FEE WILL NOT BE REFUNDED AFTER THE THIRD WEEK OF CLASSES.**

Items Provided by Lab Fee:

- USB Storage Drive
- CD-Rs
- Printer Supplies

PLEASE NOTE: Under no circumstances should a student be required to pay any additional monies for supplies needed to complete course assignments – excluding items listed under “Items Provided by the Student”. All supplies are to be paid for using Lab Fee monies. If you are being charged additional monies, please report to Robin McGinnis (rmcginni@uoguelph.ca) in the main office (Zavitz Hall rm. 201) immediately.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Three Quizzes/Assignments (through Courselink), based on readings from the textbook and lectures (submit to D2L):

- 1) Due: January 29, 2015; before class meeting5%
- 2) Due: February 26, 2015; before class meeting5%
- 3) Due: March 19, 2015; before class meeting5%

Two Listening Assignments (based on Reserve/D2L recordings, submit to D2L):

- 1) Due: Tuesday, February 10, 2015; 1pm..... 5%
- 2) Due: Tuesday, March 24, 2015; 1pm.....5%

Ten lab Assignments Projects, due weekly (highest 9 count):45%

Two Creative Music Projects

- 1) Due: Thursday, March 5, 2015; 1pm (submit to dropbox.com) 10%
 - 2) Due: Final Exam (April 9, 2015; 7-9 pm;..... 15%
- Digital Music Lab) Presentation of Creative Project Two

SOFTWARE/HARDWARE:

We will be working with a range audio software: Logic Express, Logic Pro, GarageBand, Reason, Live!, Peak. We will also work with keyboard controllers, microphones, recorders, and mixers. It is expected that you will complete your work in the Lab.

DIGITAL MUSIC LAB:

- 1. Use of the lab is a privilege, not a right. Students are required to follow all lab protocols to ensure the safety and security of the equipment, and provide consistent working conditions for other users. Students who abuse the lab will not be allowed to continue using it.
- 2. The lab will be open according to the posted schedule. Only those students registered in approved courses will have access to the lab.