

Basic Course Information

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| Semester: | Fall 2015 | Instructor Name: | Mr. Daren Burns |
| Course Title & #: | Advanced Recording Techniques - MUS 184 | Email: | daren.burns@imperial.edu |
| CRN #: | 10507 | Webpage (optional): | NONE |
| Classroom: | 305 | Office #: | 305D |
| Class Dates: | 8/17/2015 to 12/11/2015 | Office Hours: | MW - 9am - 9:30am T - 11:30am - 12:30pm R - 11:30am - 1:30pm |
| Class Days: | MW | Office Phone #: | 760-355-6250 |
| Class Times: | 3:35-5:00pm | Emergency Contact: | Humanities Department Secretary, IVC |
| Units: | 2.0 | | |

Course Description

This course is a continuation in the study of digital audio recording and how to make a professional sounding compact disk using the IVC Digital Recording Studio. The curriculum will cover alleviating basic problems in the recording process, console automation, SMPTE and MIDI synchronization, the fundamentals involved in a mix-down and the skills for planning and executing a recording session. (CSU)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Record and Mix a four minute surround-sound recording with four instrumental tracks using Sonar recording software. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. List and explain the “Ten Aspects of a Recorded Piece of Music” as described in the mixing article of the same name. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Give a class presentation on the different type of recording studios and their applications. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
4. Demonstrate how to use effect processors practically and artistically.(ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify basic problems in the recording process and how to alleviate them.
2. Evaluate the potential benefits of console automation, SMPTE and MIDI synchronization.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the processes and difficulties of recording pianos, drums,

acoustic instruments, electric instruments and vocals.

4. Demonstrate mastery of the fundamentals involved in the mix-down.
5. Develop the necessary skills to plan a recording session.
6. Develop the necessary skills to execute a recording session.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

- Huber, David Miles and Robert E. Runstein (2014). *Modern Recording Techniques* (8th/e). Boston Focal Press. ISBN: 978-0-240-82157-3
- Various supplemental handouts will be supplied based on articles from recording journals magazines.
- The IVC Recording Studio and MIDI Lab facilities will be utilized for learning the hardware and software applications.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Reading and Writing:

Required Writing: There are frequent quizzes, assignments, a semester project and a final exam.

The assignments are:

1. Record sounds to the digital audio workstation and demonstrate file management with the digital audio software.
2. Edit and filter sound files with the digital audio software.
3. In class demonstration of fundamentals synthesis techniques
4. In class demonstration of advanced synthesis and audio morphing techniques.
5. Import a MIDI file to a digital audio recording session

The semester projects include:

1. Four-minute composition built with sampled sounds in digital audio work station.
2. Palette of three sounds using fundamental synthesis techniques.
3. Palette of three sounds using advanced synthesis techniques.
4. Five-minute composition, utilizing created sounds, recorded and modified in digital audio workstation. This composition will be mastered for a CD, and converted to mp3 format.

Methods of Assessment: Methods of Assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:
Quizzes Projects Class Participation Class Work Homework Lab Activities Skills Test

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

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|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Recording Projects | 30% |
| Textbook Quizzes | 10% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Final Project | 30% (In the IVC Recording Studio) |

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|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Class Participation | 10% (presentations & attendance) |
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Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **[Blackboard Support Site](#)**. The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **[Learning Services](#)**. There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **[Library Services](#)**. There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **[Student Health Center](#)**. A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- **[Mental Health Counseling Services](#)**. Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

| Week | Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic | Pages/ Due Dates/Tests |
|------------|---|---|
| Week 1-4 | Learn to use Recording Software (Logic Pro X) and the 16 channel mixer “control surface”. | |
| Week 5-6 | Continue to Learn to use Recording Software and Read and Discuss Handouts about “Modern Mixing Procedures” | Palette of three sounds using fundamental synthesis techniques. |
| Week 7-8 | Continue to use Recording Software (Logic Pro X) and the mixer control surface. | Four minute composition |
| Week 9-10 | Learn how to record in “Surround Sound” and How to set music into a movie/video using Logic Pro X. | Palette of three sounds using advanced synthesis techniques |
| Week 11-12 | Read and Discuss Chapter 13 (Internet Applications) Submit Final Project Proposal. | Quiz Producer Presentation |
| Week 13-15 | Begin “Final Project” in the IVC Recording Studio and Attend seminars on the following topics: Drum Recording Effects Processing, Patch bay Applications, Studio Engineering and Famous Producers Today | |
| Week 16 | Final Project and Final Exam | |

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****