



**COLLEGE OF
ARTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND DESIGN**

**DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC**

**COURSE SYLLABUS:
SEQUENCING AND PRODUCTION**

SPRING 2021

COURSE NUMBER: MUS 14B

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3 credits

COURSE TITLE: Sequencing and Production

INSTRUCTOR: John Meschi

DATE SUBMITTED: January 4, 2021

SYLLABUS. LIU POST DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC. SPRING 2021

Course Title: Sequencing and Production

Course Number: MUS 14B

Course Description

This course is a continuation of MUS 14A centering on MIDI and audio sequencing and includes explanations and demonstrations of recording and arranging techniques for creating dynamic musical sequences in any musical style.

Course Objectives

To develop competencies in music sequencing, arranging, recording, and mixing and mastering audio productions.

Course Content

Course content can be divided into four main areas: 1) continued study of skills developed in MUS 14A pertaining to sequencing MIDI and audio, using prerecorded and original material; 2) development of competencies in more advanced features of digital audio workstations (DAWs) with a primary focus on Logic Pro X (Apple); 3) development of a better understanding of the workflow process needed to properly organize, arrange, record and mix audio productions in the digital domain; 4) an introduction to the basics of audio effects and processing needed to create professional sounding digital recordings.

Required Texts (available online and in the Music Technology Lab)

Logic Pro X – User Guide. Apple Inc., 2019; Logic Pro X Instruments. Apple Inc., 2013; Logic Pro X Effects. Apple Inc., 2013

Recommended Ancillary Reading

Logic Pro X 10.5 - Professional Music Production. Apple Pro Training Series. David Nahmani. Peachpit Press, 2018; Logic Pro X, 2nd Edition. Graham English. For Dummies, 2018; The Mixing Engineer's Handbook, 4th Edition. Bobby Owsinski. Bobby Owsinski Media Group, 2017

Instructional Activities

In-class tutorial projects and exercises; selected assigned readings from the required texts, distributed materials from the World Wide Web; lectures, discussions and demonstrations; assigned projects.

Attendance

Will be taken every class. You cannot miss more than 6 hours of class – excused or unexcused. If you do, you may be asked to withdraw from the course. Your attendance will be factored into your final grade.

Grading

Will be based on attendance and completion of assigned projects and in-class tutorials and exercises.

Course Web Site and Email Address for Assignments

The course web site is <http://myweb.liu.edu/jmeschi/sp21/mus14B>. All assignments to be submitted by email should be sent to jmcwptech@gmail.com. Late assignments may be penalized. Other assignments will be collected in the lab or through cloud sharing.

Notes

It is important that you bring a Flash drive to class to copy your work. Never leave the lab unless you know you have two copies of your work – one on your lab machine, the other on your Flash drive. Cloud-storage is an acceptable alternative, but it might not be as efficient as a Flash drive.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, I will make accommodations for students with disabilities. It is necessary for those students to provide me with the appropriate DSS Accommodations Form by the end of the second week of classes. Please contact the office of Disability Support Services in the Learning Support Center at 516-299-3057 so that steps can be taken to develop an appropriate educational plan.

If you are a student with a documented disability, medical condition, or think you may have a disability, and will need accommodations, academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, or other services, please contact Marie Fatscher in Disability Support Services (Post Hall, Lower Level, C10) at 516-299-3057 or marie.fatscher@liu.edu to request services, accommodations or for additional information. Additional information is also available on the DSS website: www.liu.edu/post/dss

The Center for Healthy Living offers supportive psychological and nutritional services Monday – Friday 9 am to 5 pm and is located in Post Hall, Lower Level – South Entrance (parking lot side of building.) Additional information is available by emailing post-healthy@liu.edu or calling Lynne Schwartz at (516) 299-4162.

Anticipated Schedule, Sequencing and Production. MUS 14B, Spring 2021

Weekly Reading Assignments are listed on the next page

Week	Topics	Classwork	Project Assignments Due Dates
2/1	Intro and Overview; GarageBand to Logic – Differences & Similarities; Intro to Effects (Equalization, Compression, Reverb, etc.)	<i>“Mastering” a Recording Exercise</i>	
2/8	GarageBand to Logic <i>cont.</i> ; Logic features: Mixer/ Inspector/Other Windows/Views; Screensets, etc	<i>“Mixing” a Song Exercise</i>	2/10 “Mastering” Exercise
2/15	Creating Sequences & Arrangements; Types of Tracks in Logic; Creating Tracks, Inputting/ Recording	<i>Creating a Sequence/Arrangement Exercise</i>	2/17 “Mixing” Exercise
2/22	Creating a Sequence <i>cont.</i>		
3/1	More about Mixing; Editing in Piano Roll; Automation		3/3 Sequencing/Arranging Exercise
3/8	Basic Insert Effects; More about Equalizers and Noise Gates	<i>EQ Exercise</i>	
3/15	More about Compressors, Equalizers and Noise Gates	<i>EQ Quiz and Noise Gate Exercise</i>	3/17 EQ Exercise
3/22	More about Compressors	<i>Compression Exercise and Quiz</i>	3/24 Noise Gate Exercise
3/29	More about Sends, Routing, Aux Tracks and Busses; Track Stacks	<i>Compression Quiz and Routing Exercise</i>	3/31 Compression Exercise
4/5	Working with Parallel Effects (Reverb, Delays, Chorus, etc.)	<i>Reverb Exercise</i>	4/7 Routing Exercise
4/12	Final Project 1	Work on Final Projects	4/14 Reverb Exercise
4/19	Review; Work on Projects; Final Project 2	Work on Final Projects	4/21 Final Project 1
4/26	Final Project 2 <i>cont.</i>	Work on Final Projects	
5/3	<i>Finals Week. Final session either 5/3 or 5/5</i>		5/3 or 5/5 Final Project 2

See the following page for weekly reading assignments. They can be done online or in the Technology Lab. Some reading material may be followed by online quizzes and/or review.

Notes:

1. JM must review any in-class projects in the lab BEFORE being submitted. Assignments to be emailed should be sent to **jmcwptech@gmail.com**. Other methods to submit your work will be announced. Please do not send assignments to JM’s liu.edu account.
2. Due dates for assignments should be considered “soft” due dates – more suggested dates than required dates.

Reading and Viewing Assignments, Sequencing and Production. MUS 14B, Spring 2021

Most links to the Logic Pro X User Guide point to sections of the manual found in the left column of the page. You should read all the links listed in those sections, not just the page which appears in the right column.

Week of Feb. 8

1. Read [Get started with the Logic Pro main window](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#). (Take all links)
2. Read the sections Logic Pro basics and Connecting an external device (if you have a keyboard, mic, guitar, etc.) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)

Week of Feb. 15

1. Read [Use step input recording techniques](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
2. Watch [Step Input Recording in Logic Pro X \(It's Awesome\)](#)
3. Read [How to Record MIDI with the Step Input Keyboard](#)

Week of Feb 22

1. Read [Record additional software instrument takes](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
2. Read the sections [Record your voice or musical instrument](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
3. Read [Use loops and other media files](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
4. Watch [Logic Pro X - How to use Screensets \(Tutorial\)](#)

Week of March 1

1. Read the section [Work with projects](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#). (Take all links)
2. Read the section [Work with tracks](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#). (Take all links)
3. Read all the sections in [Arrange a Project](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
4. Read the section [Work with Track Stacks](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)

Week of March 8

1. Read [EQ For Beginners Part 1: What You Need To Know](#)
2. Read [EQ For Beginners Part 2: How To EQ Absolutely Anything](#)
3. Watch [Basics of Audio EQ \[Full Tutorial\]](#)
4. Read [Music 101: What Is an Equalizer?](#)
5. Read [How to Use an Equalizer: Tips From Timbaland](#)
6. Read/Study [EQ Cheat Sheet: Simple Guidelines for Effective Equalization](#)

Week of March 15

1. Read/Study [The Ultimate EQ Cheat Sheet for Every Common Instrument](#)
2. Read [Equalizers overview](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
3. Read [Logic Pro Channel EQ overview](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#)
4. Read [Equalization Techniques](#)
5. Read [Equalization Examined – Master Critical Frequency Ranges](#)

Week of March 22

1. Read the section on [Noise Gates](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#). (Take all links)
2. Watch [How to Use a Noise Gate](#)
3. Read the sections on [Compressors](#) in the [Logic Pro X User Guide](#). (Take all links)
4. Read [What is an Audio Compressor?](#)
5. Read [Dynamic range compression](#)

Week of March 29

1. Read [What does an Audio Compressor do & how do you use it?](#)
2. Read [The Beginner's Guide to Compression](#)
3. Read [Audio Compression Basics](#)
4. Read [Compression Made Easy](#)
5. Read [The Ratio of the Audio Compressor. What Does it Really Do?](#)

Week of April 5

1. Watch [QUICKLY learn how to HEAR compression](#)
2. Read [Logic Pro X Plug-Ins: Compressor, Limiter and Other Dynamic Tools](#).
3. Watch [Logic Pro X Signal Routing \(Aux Sends, Busses, Aux Tracks...\)](#). **Note:** the beginning of the video may be too basic for some. If you feel this way, keep watching. The video will give you an excellent look at the topic
4. Read [Working With Track Stacks in Logic Pro X](#)

Week of April 12

1. Read the section [Reverb effects](#) in the Logic Pro X Effects Guide
2. Read the section [Delay effects](#) in the Logic Pro X User Guide
3. Read [Applying Reverb and Delay to Your Tracks](#)
4. Read [How To Use Reverb Like A Pro: 1](#)

There will be no specific reading/viewing assignments for the weeks of April 19 and 26. Work will concentrate on completing Final Projects.

Instructor: John Meschi

Office: Room 204, Fine Arts Center

Phone: Office, (516) 299-2105; Department, (516) 299-2474

E-mail: john.meschi@liu.edu. **Website:** <http://myweb.liu.edu/jmeschi>

Office hours by appointment and online