Syllabus: Introduction to Music Technology
MUS 14A, Fall 2019

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Course Description: Students will acquire basic software skills in the use of music production tools, i.e. audio editor, loop-based editor, sequencer, and a notation program. Digital interface theory is studied so that the student understands how components interact. The course results in the production of practical arrangements that are both audible and professional looking in appearance.

Course Objectives: To provide an overview of music and technology with essential study and reference material; to give a perspective to the many ways people can use technology in music applications; to develop competencies in various areas of computer and music technology including: music production (digital audio and MIDI sequencing), electronic musical instruments, music notation software; to develop a better understanding of computers hardware and the various aspects of the Internet.

Course Content: Course content can be divided into the following areas: 1) an overview of the various types of music software; 2) an introduction to the use of computers in music production with emphasis on audio editing, MIDI sequencing, loop-based composition and music notation applications; 3) a study of the current state and use of the Internet; 4) if appropriate, development of competencies in various areas of music and computer technology as they apply to teaching music.

Required Text: An Introduction to Music Technology, 2nd Edition. Dan Hosken. Routledge, 2014.

Grading: Grading will be based on attendance and completion of in-class tutorial projects and assigned projects.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken every class. Missing more than two weeks worth of classes during the semester – excused or unexcused – will result in the student being asked to withdraw from the course.

Instructional Activities: In-class tutorial projects, lectures, discussions and demonstrations; selected readings from the textbook, World Wide Web and distributed material; assigned projects. If time permits some general topics on technology will be discussed during the semester, e.g. how to establish a Web presence (blogs, Web site). All assignments submitted via e-mail should be sent to jmcwptech@gmail.com. Assignments which call for you to submit a score or other material will be collected in class.

Note: It is important that you backup your work after every class, either with a Flash drive or cloud storage. 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 or in the cloud.

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.

Anticipated Schedule. Introduction to Music Technology. MUS 14A, Fall 2019

Week	Topic	Classwork	Reading Assignments for the Week [1]	Assignment Due Dates
9/2	Introduction; Overview of Course	Introductions, overview of the course, some basics about Technology and Music Technology		
9/9	Editing Digital Audio	More on Technology, Music Technology.; An introduction to Audacity; Audio Ex. 1 (Editing Audio) and 2 (Ringtone). **NOTE**: Bring an audio CD, an mp3 CD-ROM or an audio file that contains an excerpt you'd like to use as a ringtone	Ch. 1, 2 and 3	
9/16	Reading Review; Editing Audio cont.	Audio Ex. 1 & 2 cont.	Ch. 1, 2 and 3 cont.	9/19–Email Editing Audio MP3 file to JM
9/23	Reading Review; Editing Audio cont.	Audio Ex. 2 & 3 (Editing Voice);	Ch. 4 and 5	9/26–Email Ringtone MP3 file to JM
9/30	Reading Review; Editing Audio cont; Loop-based Composition	Audio Ex. 4 (Creating an Audio Loop); Intro to ACID/GarageBand	Ch. 4 and 5 cont.	
10/7	Reading Review; Loop-based Composition cont.	ACID/GarageBand cont.	Ch. 6 and 7	10/10–Email Editing Voice MP3 file to JM
10/14	Reading Review; Loop-based Composition cont.	ACID/GarageBand cont.; Audio Ex. 5 (Soundtrack)	Ch. 6 and 7 cont.	10/17–Email Audio Loop file to JM
10/21	Reading Review; Electronic Keyboards	Audio Ex. 5 cont. Types of electronic keyboards, general features; Kronos features, General MIDI, etc.	Ch. 8 and 9	
10/28	Reading Review; Sequencing	Intro to Sequencing; Sequencing Ex. 1	Ch. 10 and 11	10/31–Email Soundtrack Exercise audio file to JM
11/4	Reading Review; Sequencing cont.	Sequencing Ex. 1	Ch. 12, 13 and 14	
11/11	Reading Review; Music Notation	Intro to Finale; Finale Ex. 1	Ch. 12, 13 and 14 cont.	11/14–Email Sequencing Exercise MP3 file to JM
11/18	Reading Review; Music Notation cont.	Finale Ex. 2	Ch. 15 and 16	11/21–Submit printed 1st page of Finale Ex. 1 to JM
11/25	Reading Review; Music Notation cont.	Finale Ex. 2 cont. Audio Project cont. *No class 11/28 – Thanksgiving recess*	Ch. 15 and 16 cont.	
12/2	Reading Review; Work on Final Projects	Work on Final Projects including one of the Suggested Activities found in the textbook's Appendix. More on this assignment in class. *Last scheduled class 12/5*	Ch. 17 (Music Ed majors)	12/5–Submit entire printed Finale Ex. 2 score to JM
12/9	No class this week. Work on Final Projects. Finals begin 12/12	*Final session may be 12/12*		
12/16	Work on Final Projects.	*Final session may be 12/17*		All assigned projects must be submitted within 48 hours of our Final session

[1] All reading assignments are from *An Introduction to Music Technology.*

Assignments should be submitted to jmcwptech@gmail.com

Note: If time permits some Suggested Activities from the textbook will be demonstrated and/or completed in class. You may be required to submit additional assignments during the semester as these activities are completed.