

Date: Spring 2006

- I. Course Name: Techniques of Audio Recording I
Prefix and Number: MUS 170
Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours – 3 contact hours
Course Description:

A study of mixer formats, patch bays, decibels, acoustics, and microphones. Emphasis is on gaining practical knowledge through working with recording equipment. Consideration is also given to production concepts and aesthetics. Students will work on both studio and field recording projects.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

This course is designed to introduce the student to the various aspects of the modern recording studio.

Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the semester, the student should be able to:

- operate basic studio equipment
- record a musical performance
- explain musical acoustics as related to the operation of recording equipment
- explain the principles and applications of microphones and patch bays
- describe production concepts

Relation of Course goals to Goals of Degree Program:

This course serves to introduce majors to basic concepts in Audio Recording.

Competencies Addressed in This Course

Problem Solving + Critical Thinking	Reading
Professional Competency	Citizenship

III. Methods of Instruction

Text(s) - Runstein, Robert E., Humber, David M., Modern Recording Techniques. Indianapolis: H. W. Sams, 1989.

Methods of Instruction and Student Activities

Techniques of Audio Recording I deals with skill development, aesthetic judgment, and theoretical understanding. The student develops an understanding of recording technique through study of the textbook, classroom lecture/demonstrations, and working with the equipment. The functions and applications of the various components are covered systematically until the student is thoroughly familiar with the entire system. Students may assist second-year students in taping department recitals and concerts.

Evaluation:

The student's grade is calculated by averaging grades from:

- examinations on the reading assignments and lectures (approximately one every three weeks)
- quizzes on studio operations
- projects involving techniques of monaural and stereo recording

IV. Course Outline:

- 1) Introduction to the modern studio
- 2) Philosophical and artistic aspects to recording
- 3 + 4) Acoustics
 - a. properties of sound
 - b. decibels
- 5) Patchbays
- 6) Mixing Consoles
 - a. studio vs. reinforcement
 - b. digital vs. analog
- 7) Signal routing
- 8) Microphones
 - a. concept and design
 - b. applications
- 9) Speakers