

## **MUS 1360 – Intro to Music Technology (Fall 2016)**

**Section 3299: MWF period 4 (10:40-11:30am)**

**Location: MUB 147**

**Rob Seaback – Instructor ([rseaback@ufl.edu](mailto:rseaback@ufl.edu))**

**Office hours: Wednesday, period 3 (9:35-10:25am) MUB 147**

### **Course Description**

MUS1360 introduces the fundamentals of music technology in the context of its historical and cultural use. Scientific foundations of acoustics, hearing, and digital audio as well as technical skills for music production will be addressed. Participants will develop skills-based foundations of music technology through hands-on projects utilizing software for different media. Critical discussion will consider the social impact of contemporary and historical systems of instrument design, recording, notation, and media dissemination.

### **Course Goals**

By the end of the course, students should have:

- Proficiency with the following software: Finale (notation), Audacity (audio editing), Garage Band (digital audio workstation), Reason (digital audio workstation)
- Fundamental skills in web design & html/css
- A basic understanding of sound and hearing, digital audio, recording, and MIDI
- A basic knowledge of the history of electronic music and familiarity with repertory
- Listening/analytical skills that go beyond the paradigm of functional harmony to emphasize timbre, texture, and semiotics
- An ability to historically and socially contextualize the development of music technology

### **Course Materials**

- USB flash drive
- Headphones
- Laptop computer (optional)
- Dropbox or Google Drive account

### **Required Readings**

Notation Standards:

<http://www.music.indiana.edu/departments/academic/composition/style-guide/>

Music Publishers' Association. "Standard Music Notation Practice." Music Publishers' Association of the United States, Inc., 1966, 1993.  
<http://icking-music-archive.org/lists/sottisier/notation.pdf>

Digital Audio & Recording:

Huber, David Miles, and Robert E. Runstein. *Modern Recording Techniques*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Burlington, MA: Focal Press, 2010.

Electroacoustic Music History:

Dunn, David. "A History of Electronic Music Pioneers." David Dunn, 1992.  
<http://www.daviddunn.com/~david/writings/pioneers.pdf>

Aesthetics/Culture:

Gould, Glenn. "The Prospects of Recording." In *Audio Culture: Readings in Modern Music*, edited by Christoph Cox and Daniel Warner, 115-126. New York: Continuum, 2009.

Ostertag, Bob. "Why I No Longer Give Away My Music."  
<http://www.onthecommons.org/magazine/why-i-no-longer-give-away-my-music>

Ostertag, Bob. "The Professional Suicide of a Recording Musician." Bob Ostertag, 2007. <https://bobostertag.wordpress.com/professional-suicide/>

Ostertag, Bob. "Human Bodies, Computer Music." *Leonardo Music Journal* 12 (2002): 11-14.

**Grading Scale**

A	94+
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

## **Grade Distribution**

Projects: 12% each \* 5 = 60%

Exams: 10% each \* 2 = 20%

Reading Responses = 12%

Participation = 8%

Grades and feedback will be available on Canvas in E-Learning. Please check regularly.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. After three absences, a half-letter grade will be deducted from your final score for each class missed.

## **Classroom Policies**

**The use of all technology during lecture is forbidden** (ironic, no?). **This is very important.** Please do not open laptops, log in to the classroom computers, or use handheld devices during lecture. Computers will be used only for in-class assignments and during lab sessions.

You are welcome to use your own computer to complete assignments, but please make sure your saved files will load on the lab computers. There are several software packages you may have at home that are incompatible with the lab computers. Use caution.

**Software piracy is illegal.** Please follow the university policies on computer usage: <http://www.it.ufl.edu/policies/acceptable-use/summary/>

**Late assignments will not be accepted.** The due dates for assignments are clearly stated on Canvas.

**Academic Integrity:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor of this class.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

## **Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

## **Calendar – Fall 2016**

8/22 – Computer Basics, Notational Standards  
*read “Standard Music Notation Practice”*

8/24 – Notation Standards  
*review Indiana Composition Style Guide*

8/26 – Notation Standards in-class assignment

8/29 – Finale: setup, simple entry, articulations, dynamics, text

8/31 – Finale: layout, special tools

9/2 – Finale in-class assignment

9/5 – Holiday (no class)

9/7 – Finale: more on layout/sizing

9/9 – Finale lab  
*read Audacity Intro pdf*

9/12 – Digital Audio/Audacity  
*read MRT 41-50 (waveform characteristics)*  
Finale Project Due

9/14 – Audacity editing  
*read MRT 52-57 (waveform characteristics)*

9/16 – Audacity effects  
*read MRT 58-71 (sound and hearing)*

- 9/19 – Sound and Hearing (dangerous dBs, equal loudness curve, mixing)  
*read* Gould, “The Prospects of Recording”
- 9/21 – Mixing, discuss Gould/plunderphonics  
Audacity Project Assigned  
*read* MRT 199-209 (digital audio)
- 9/23 – Digital Audio  
*read* MRT 255-257, 371-381 (sound file formats)
- 9/26 – Review submission criteria/file formats  
uncompressed vs. compressed formats
- 9/28 – Listening (effects, mix, orchestration)
- 9/30 – Audacity Lab
- 10/3 – Audacity Project Due/presentations  
*read* MRT 309-314 - MIDI
- 10/5 – Samplers/Synths/MIDI in GarageBand  
*read* MRT 37-39, 111-122 (recording)
- 10/7 – recording and automation in GarageBand  
*read* Dunn 3-10 (Cahill, Theremin)
- 10/10 – Midterm Review, early electronic music
- 10/12 – Midterm Exam  
*read* Dunn 11-18 (tape music), 19-25 (synthesizers)
- 10/14 – Homecoming (no class)
- 10/17 – present your work  
GarageBand mini Due  
*read* Dunn 26-31 (computer music)
- 10/19 – Computer Music/Reason Intro  
*read* Dunn 31-39 (live electronic)
- 10/21 – Reason – loops/patterns  
*read* Ostertag, “Human Bodies, Computer Music”
- 10/24 – Reason – soft synths
- 10/26 – Reason – effects, aux sends
- 10/28 – Reason Lab
- 10/31 – Reason Project Due
- 11/2 – Guest Lecture
- 11/4 – Guest Lecture  
*read* HTML Guide
- 11/7 – HTML/CSS
- 11/9 – HTML/CSS  
*read* Ostertag, “Why I No Longer Give Away My Music”
- 11/11 – Holiday (no class)

11/14 – Web Distribution/Creative Commons

11/16 – HTML/CSS

11/18 – HTML/CSS lab

11/21 – Website Project Due

11/23 – Break

11/25 – Break

11/28 – Recording

*read* MRT 132-142 – Microphone Techniques

11/30 – Recording

12/2 – Recording lab

12/5 – Final Exam Review

12/7 – Final Exam