

TPA 4930 Introduction to Sound Design and Technology

Spring 2020

3 Credits (Lecture + Lab)

Revised 20191230

Basic Information

Instructor: Jing Zhao

352 273 0578

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Time and Place: Tue/Thu 16:05 – 18:00 McGuire 217

elearning.ufl.edu

Office Location and Hours: McGuire 201

Tue 14:00 – 16:00 by appointment only

Course Description

This course introduces the students to the basics in sound design and technology. Students will work on projects about design elements and design process. Students will also work in the electric shop and/or productions assignments (refer to the Lab Syllabus for details).

Lab Requirement

Student must either participate in 45 hours of lab assignments or the equivalent hours by a production assignment. Students are required to meet with the Lab coordinator (Todd Bedell) within 1 week from the beginning of classes each semester to establish a production role or coordinate a schedule of lab hours. Satisfactory completion of the LAB is a requirement to passing the class. An incomplete or failing grade from the lab may result in failure of the entire course.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

An interest in design and production for live events. A willingness and desire to participate in the technical operation of productions at UF.

Course Goals and/or Objectives

- Understanding of the physical properties of sound.
- Introduction to design elements and sound equipment.
- Development of vocabulary and knowledge for engagement on a production.
- Demonstration of ability to sound design a mini production.
- Completion of lab requirements to gain hands-on experience in the shop and/or production.

Textbooks, Software and Instructional Materials

While there isn't a required textbook, the instructors will be suggesting reading and research and sharing a variety of instructional resources. The students will work with a personal workbook or journal of notes and handouts to refer to at the end of the course.

Course Fees

Material and supply fees are assessed for certain courses to offset the cost of materials or supply items consumed in the course of instruction. A list of [approved courses and fees](#) is published in the Schedule of Courses each semester. (UF-3.0374 Regulations of the University of Florida).

Material and supply and equipment use fee information is available from the academic departments or from the schedule of courses (Florida Statutes 1009.24). The course fee for this class is **\$140**

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
1/7	Introduction to course	
1/9	Sound Fundamentals 1	
1/14	Sound Fundamentals 2	
1/16	Design Elements: Color, Mass	Quiz 1 Sound Fundamentals
1/21	Color Project Presentation	
1/23	Mass Project Presentation	
1/28	Design Elements: Rhythm, Line, Space	Design Project Groups Due
1/30	Rhythm Project Presentation	
2/4	Line Project Presentation	
2/6	Habituation and Startle	Design Project Story Due
2/11	Habituation and Startle Project	
2/13	Consonance and Dissonance	
2/18	Consonance and Dissonance Project	
2/20	Sound Design Process	
2/25	Digital Audio	Design Project Cue Sheets Due
2/27	Network Audio	Design Project Revised Cue Sheets Due
3/3	NO CLASS: Spring Break	
3/5	NO CLASS: Spring Break	
3/10	Equipment: Microphones	Quiz 2 Digital and Network Audio
3/12	Equipment: Loudspeakers	Design Project Rough Sound Due
3/17	Rough Sound Presentation	
3/19	Speaker Plots and Block Diagrams	Quiz 3 Equipment
3/24	Sound System Calibration	
3/26	QLab	
3/31	NO CLASS: USITT	
4/2	NO CLASS: USITT	
4/7	Work Day – QLab Workspace	QLab Workspace Project, Dante Cert
4/9	Design Project Rehearsals	
4/14	Design Project Rehearsals	
4/16	Design Project Rehearsals	
4/21	Design Project Presentations	
4/23	NO CLASS: Reading Day	

Evaluation of Grades

The lecture part of this course is worth 80% of your final grade. The Lab component is worth 20% of your final grade. You are required to work a total of 45 Lab hours in the semester. A score of incomplete or 0 points in the LAB requirement results in an incomplete or failure for the entire class regardless of course work. **Refer to the Lab syllabus for details.**

Grades Breakdown

Assignment or Course Component	Points
DESIGN ELEMENTS	30
Color Project	5
Mass Project	5
Rhythm Project	5
Line Project	5
Habituation and Startle Project	5
Consonance and Dissonance	5
DESIGN PROJECT	30
Cue Sheets	5
Revised Cue Sheets	5
Rough Sound	5
QLab Workspace	5
Final Presentation	10
QUIZZES	20
Quiz 1 Sound Fundamentals	5
Quiz 2 Digital Audio and Network Audio	5
Quiz 3 Equipment	5
Dante Level 1 Certification	5
LAB	20
TOTAL	100

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	94 – 100%	4.0
A-	90 – 93%	3.67
B+	87 – 89%	3.33
B	84 – 86%	3.00
B-	80 – 83%	2.67
C+	77 – 79%	2.33
C	74 – 76%	2.00
C-	70 – 73%	1.67
D+	67 – 69%	1.33
D	64 – 66%	1.00
D-	60 – 63%	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF		0.00

More information on grades and grading policies can be found at

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Policies

Assignments

There are a number of class projects. Some projects will become the basis for later projects, making it especially important to finish on time. Most projects will need to be completed in the week interim between course meetings. Due dates of project are posted in the Course Schedule section of this document. Detailed project guidelines will be posted on Canvas.

Grading

Your assignment grades will be based on these factors:

- Your understanding of the assignment and your ability to follow instructions.
- The completion of the project during the time required.
- All factors that are in the assignment are addressed completely and correctly.
- Ability to discuss your project using the correct terminology when called upon.

Participation and Attendance

We value participation more than mere attendance. Real Time interaction with your peers and the Instructor will empower you to greater achievement. If your absence cannot be avoided, please contact the Instructor prior to the class session that needs to be missed.

- You are allowed one unexcused absence for the entire semester.
- More than one unexcused absence will result in a reduction of your final grade by a half letter grade per additional absence.
- If you have 3 or more unexcused absences, you will fail the course automatically.
- If you fail to complete all required hours in the lab/shop, your final grade will be lowered by one letter grade.

Quiz/Exam Policy

Quizzes will be given in class as detailed in the Course Schedule section of this document. There is no final exam.

Make-up Policy

Late and made-up assignments will be marked down by 80. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Course Technology

Students will be required to have access to, and use a personal computer with the access to the Internet. A Mac computer is preferred but not required. Students should have personal access to the Internet. Other technologies will be introduced during the course session.

Course Communications

Students can communicate directly with the Instructor regarding the course material via email.

Electronic communication must demonstrate a formal tone and style, and unless absolutely urgent, will be responded to Mon - Fri 08:00 - 17:00.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

UF Policies

Honest Policy

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 (sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-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 or TAs in this class.

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Students requiring accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Netiquette Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats, more information can be found at: <http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Online course 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/>.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

1. University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning- support@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints:

<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents the instructor's current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.