

# Digital Musicianship and Production (MUS 1360)

## Syllabus Contact Information

**Chris Shelton, M.M.** (Principal Instructor)

*Ph.D. in Composition (in progress)*

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Office Hours: by Appointment

**José Valentino Ruiz, Ph.D.** (Co-Instructor)

*Head & Inaugural Professor of Music Business and Entrepreneurship*

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*M.M. in Performance (in progress)*

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## Course Description

MUS1360 introduces the fundamentals of digital musicianship and production. Scientific foundations of acoustics, hearing, and digital audio as well as technical skills for music production will be addressed. Students will work on practical applications of these concepts and techniques. Furthermore, the instructors will encourage students to critically explore cultural aspects of music technology in contemporary practice.

## Required Textbooks

No textbook is required. The instructor(s) will provide reading materials that correlate to the subject matter as necessary.

## *Recommended, not Required*

Hosken, Dan. *An Introduction to Music Technology*. 2nd ed. New York, NY: Routledge, 2015.

Publisher link [here](#). Other example [here](#). (to visit the textbook's website, click [here](#).)

## Required Materials

- Headphones/Earphones (NO BLUETOOTH)
- External Storage Medium (flash drive, external hard drive, etc.)
- Computer
- Audio Interface
- Digital Audio Workstation
- Notation Software

## Course Content

Unit 1: MIDI, Techniques for the Recording Arts & Sciences, Website

Unit 2: Mixing, Editing, Live Instrumental Recording Techniques

Unit 3: Vocal Recording Techniques

Unit 4: Film Scoring for Visual Media

Unit 6: Mastering Techniques

Unit 7: Notation Software Navigation

## Course Calendar

	<b>Mondays</b>	<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Fridays</b>
Week 1 8/22-8/26	<b>No Class</b>	Syllabus/Class Overview/Introductions/ Questionnaire	Building Digital Musicianship Skills and DAW Setup/Tech Terms
Week 2 8/29-9/2	Continuing Lecture on DAWs and Production	Lab - Q and A	Lab - <b>Submit HW #1 by 11:59pm</b>
Week 3 9/5-9/9	<b>No Class</b>	Lecture on Audio (Miking examples)	Demonstration of Effects
Week 4 9/12-9/16	Mixing (Layering, Overdubbing, Crossfade)	Lecture on Mastering	Lab - <b>HW #2 Single #1 Due</b>
Week 5 9/19-9/23	Presentation of Class Assignments for Input and Suggestions/ <b>HW #3 Notation Assignment #1 Due by 11:59pm</b>	Lab - Q and A	Lab - Q and A

Week 6 9/26-9/30	Lab/ <b>HW #4 Notation Assignment #2 Due by 11:59pm</b>	Lecture on Commercial Scoring/Sound Design Basics	Lecture on Commercial Scoring/Sound Design
Week 7 10/3-10/7	Approaches to creating audio for commercials/ Vocal Recording	Lab - Q and A	<b>No Class</b>
Week 8 10/10-10/14	Lab - Q and A	Lab - Q and A	<b>Lab - HW #5 Multimedia Piece #1 Due - 2 30 sec Commercials/Film Trailer</b>
Week 9 10/17-10/21	Presentation of Class Assignments for Input and Suggestions	Lecture on Film Scoring (Historical Examples Pt 1)	Lecture on Film Scoring (Historical Examples Pt 2)
Week 10 10/24-10/28	Lab - Q and A	Lab - Q and A	<b>Lab - HW #6 Multimedia Piece #2 Due - Film Scene or 3 Commercials</b>
Week 11 10/31-11/4	Presentation of Class Assignments for Input and Suggestions	Improvisation (Necessity in Composition)	Quiz Prep
Week 12 11/7-11/11	Lab - Q and A	Lab - Q and A	<b>No Class</b>
Week 13 11/14-11/18	Lab - Q and A	Lab - Q and A	<b>Lab - HW #7 (Student Choice) - Single #2, Film Score #2, 3 more Commercials, Paper</b>
Week 14 11/21-11/25	Presentation of Class Assignments for Input and Suggestions	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class</b>
Week 15 11/28-12/2	Showcase Prep	Showcase Prep <b>PRODUCERS' SHOWCASE (7:20)</b>	2nd Questionnaire/Quiz Prep
Week 16 12/5-12/9	Quiz	Quiz	<b>No Class</b>

## Computer Lab Hours

In order to have a reasonable amount of time to work at the school computers, students should frequently check the computer lab hours, as it may change on a weekly basis.

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

## Grading

1. Discussions = 10%
2. Final Version of Projects = 30%
3. Assignments & Homework = 50%
4. Attendance & Participation = 10%

**Each class missed without a documented reason will deduct 10% of the total attendance grade** (1% of the final grade). If the attendance grade reaches 0 the student automatically receives an E grade (failure). *More information about attendance [here](#).*

## Grading Scale

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Grade	Percent	Grade Points
A	93.4-100	4.00
A-	90.0-93.3	3.67
B+	86.7-89.9	3.33
B	83.4-86.6	3.00
B-	80.0-83.3	2.67
C+	76.7-79.9	2.33
C	73.4-76.6	2.00
C-	70.0-73.3	1.67
D+	66.7-69.9	1.33
D	63.4-66.6	1.00
D-	60.0-63.3	0.67
E	0-59.9	0.00

\* *More information on grades [here](#).*

## **Make-ups for Exams or Other Work**

In order to remain fair to all students enrolled in this course who are held to the same academic standard, make-ups for any assignment will require written documentation that the student has been excused from school during the time in question. Without this approval we cannot issue a make-up. This includes all requests for permission to grant a make-up for personal issues involving family, work, deaths, hardships, marriages, pregnancies, illnesses, financial problems, etc. We do apologize for this inconvenience, however, in order to be ethically in good standing, this documentation is needed to ensure the accuracy of all claims made.

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click here to read the Conduct Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## **In-Class Recording**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student.

## Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care:** If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.
- **University Police Department:** Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care call (352) 733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.
- **GatorWell Health Promotion Services:** For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.
- **E-learning technical support:** Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).
- **Career Connections Center:** Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- **Teaching Center:** Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- **Writing Studio:** 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138.
- **Student Complaints On-Campus:** Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.
- **On-Line Students Complaints:** View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.

## Instructor Evaluations

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 <https://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 <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.