MIND 3311.001: Applications Music Technology
Spring Semester 2016
T/Th 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Location of Class: PAC 306

Dr. Brian R. Thacker
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed for both music majors and non-majors, this course will focus on hands-on learning in a workshop environment. Students will gain perspective on the people, procedures, data, software, and hardware associated with the creation of music. Topics discussed include: computer proficiency, MIDI, computer based notation, sequencing, music evaluation, music and the internet, and current trends in music technology.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. The student will have a conceptual overview of music and technology, by combining tutorial material with essential reference material.
2. Will have a broad perspective to the many ways that people can use technology in music applications.
3. Will have a systems approach to computer understanding, planning, and implementation by stressing five components: people, procedures, data, software, and hardware.
4. Will understand hardware and software unique to music applications.
5. Will understand the conceptual and generic issues and concepts that underlie current commercial hardware and software.
6. Will understand the essential uses and applications for the computer in the teaching environment and be able to suggest specific software to meet educational needs for performing, describing, and creating music.

REQUIRED TEXT & MATERIALS


BLACKBOARD ACCESS

This class utilizes Blackboard technology for assignments and supplemental materials. Students needing access instructions or help with Blackboard can refer to the Island Online website (http://distance-education.tamucc.edu). Be sure and check the Student Resources Link (https://distance-education.tamucc.edu/student_resources.html) which includes useful
documents such as *Steps to Preparing Your Computer for Blackboard* ([https://distance-education.tamucc.edu/techreq.html](https://distance-education.tamucc.edu/techreq.html)).

**ASSIGNMENTS & PROJECTS**

Assignments for this course will be selected from the following:

- Online searches
- Finding MIDI files
- Finding Audio files
- Finding Loop files
- Music Notation assignment (exact copy)
- Music Notation assignment (arrangement)
- Sequencing assignment (simple arrangement)
- Sequencing assignment (advanced arrangement)
- Sound Editing assignment

Projects

- Notation Project (original/complex arrangement - *Music Majors Only*)
- Audio Processor Reports (*non-Music Majors Only*)
- Sequencer Project (public display of class projects)

**EXAMINATIONS**

There will be a mid-term and a final examination (comprehensive of the entire semester). The main purpose of the examinations is to verify that the students comprehend the techniques and principles taught in class and can readily apply them in a short period of time. There will be quizzes in written format and/or laboratory format.

**GRADING PROCEDURES & POLICIES**

Assessment of the student's work is based on the following criteria:
- Command and application of the material covered in the classroom.
- Command of terminology.
- Comprehension of music technology as a whole.
GRADING SYSTEM

The student's final grade will be drawn from grades received for each component of the course:

Assignments 30%
Tests 20%
Project #1 20%
Project #2 20%
Final Exam 10%

Assignments: All assignments are due one week after they are assigned.

Late Assignments and Projects: In the event that you turn in assignments or projects late, 1 letter grade will be deducted for each class meeting until it is submitted. Assignments will not be accepted after one week.

In the event that you are confronted with a genuine family emergency or serious personal health issue, please discuss the matter with me as soon as possible.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 Introduction & computer basics
Week 2-5 Finale & hardware/software topics
Week 6 Class presentations of Finale Projects/Audio Processor Reports
Week 7 Introduction to Digital Audio Workstations
Week 8-13 Pro Tools & Audio Files Topics
Week 14 Class Presentations of Pro Tools Projects

ATTENDANCE

Since every class is essential, attendance is necessary for success. If you must miss class due to an illness or emergency, please call me, or leave a message on my voice mail prior to class. After 3 absences, each unexcused absence will drop your final grade 4 percent.

**** After 6 absences, your grade will be an automatic F. ****
This is a music department policy.

Perfect attendance will be rewarded with 4 percent being added to your final grade. Only one absence will be rewarded with 2 percent being added to your final grade. Tardiness will count as 1/2 an absence. Leaving early will count as 1/2 an absence.

Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible. Please have your accommodation letter from Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi Disability Services (DS) Office with you when you come see me. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Disability Services Office (located in 116 Corpus Christi Hall) at 361.825.5816.
**Academic Advising:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

**Grade Appeal Process:** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.