

Common Course Outline

MUSC 141
Audio Recording Techniques I
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description:

Audio Recording Techniques I provides basic instruction and hands-on experience with a variety of professional audio recording equipment, employing a variety of skills and techniques. Students participate in all aspects of a recording session including tracking, overdubbing, and mixing.

Prerequisite: MUSC 140 – Introduction to Audio Technology.

Overall Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will:

1. Set-up and operate recording studio equipment during a tracking, editing or mixdown session;
2. Accurately record a single or multi-track performance;
3. Perform basic digital editing on recorded audio tracks;
4. “Mix down” a multi-track recorded performance;
5. Shape the recorded performance with signal processors and effects;
6. Adapt recording studio equipment and techniques to meet technical or artistic requirements;
7. Demonstrate critical listening skills with regard to both the technical and musical aspects of a recorded performance; and
8. Use appropriate musical and technical terminology/jargon with regard to the various aspects of a recording project.

Major Topics:

These topics will be covered in the following general order:

1. Review of the fundamentals of sound and musical acoustics
2. Musical and technical terminology/jargon used in the recording studio
3. Review of the fundamentals of electricity and electronic circuits and safe electrical practices
4. Musical instrument and vocal characteristics (range, timbre)
5. Appropriate techniques for recording voice and a wide variety of musical instruments in a variety of contexts
6. Studio preparation for recording session
7. Mixing console features and operations
8. Recording machine features and operations

9. Studio monitor system features and operations
10. Single and multi-tracking recording techniques
11. Overdubbing techniques
12. Digital editing techniques
13. Mixdown techniques
14. Shaping the audio recording with signal processors and effects
15. Recording practices/styles/philosophies
16. Completing recording projects
17. Introduction to post-production techniques

Course Requirements:

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

Assessment is based on:

1. Class attendance
2. Participation in classroom activities and discussions
3. Completion of classroom and homework assignments and tasks
4. Written evaluations
5. Quality of recording projects

Other Course Information:

This course is required for the 30-credit certificate in Music Production and Audio Recording Technology

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.