MUSC 241
Advanced Audio Recording Techniques
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

MUSC 241 – Advanced Audio Recording Techniques: Advanced Audio Recording Techniques provides students with opportunities to apply technical and aesthetic expertise in the theoretical and actual completion of professional recording scenarios, with additional emphasis on integrating audio and video, and on developing a business plan with which to start a recording studio business.

Pre-requisites: MUSC 142 – Audio Recording Techniques II, MUSC 143 – The Music Business and Recording Industry, MUSC 145 (conc.)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Competently manage all aspects of a "commercial" recording session, including but not limited to equipment selection and operation, staffing and contracting, tracking and mixing, and post-production;
2. Integrate video, audio, and multimedia in the completion of creative projects;
3. Develop a business plan for the establishment of a home-based or commercial recording studio facility;
4. Adapt recording studio equipment and techniques to meet technical or artistic requirements with a high level of facility; and
5. Demonstrate advanced critical listening skills with regard to both the technical (acoustical) and artistic (musical) aspects of a recorded performance.

Major Topics

I. Techniques of integrating audio, video, and multimedia in the completion of creative projects at an advanced level
II. Management of "commercial" recording projects
   a. Meeting with the "client" to assess artistic and technical requirements
   b. Selecting, preparing, and operating recording and other specialized equipment
   c. Contracting and staffing the recording session
   d. Tracking and mixing the session
   e. Post-production (see 5)
III. Development of a business plan with which to establish an owner-operated audio recording business
   a. Legal issues: zoning, building permits, contracts
   b. Studio financing
   c. Construction considerations, discussion of studio construction/building techniques

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For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

    d. Equipment selection, purchase, and installation
    e. Marketing the studio business
    f. Staffing the studio business
    g. Financial management of the studio business
IV. Post-production techniques
    a. Audio signal processing
    b. Creative mixdown
    c. "Finalizing"
    d. Delivery of finished product
V. Recording practices/styles/philosophies
    a. Historical practices
    b. Current commercial styles

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. Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- Class attendance
- Participation in classroom activities and discussions
- Completion of classroom and homework assignments and tasks
- Written evaluations
- Quality of recording projects
- Recording project management skills
- Quality of professional audio business plan #2

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

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.

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