Course Calendar Description

This course will introduce technical concepts and identification skills related to electro-acoustic music processes abundantly prevalent in music today.

Prerequisite(s):
No Prerequisite(s) for this course

Extra Information: 3 hours, 0.5 course, open to music and non-music students.

Please note that prerequisites are no longer automatically checked prior to course registration. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that he or she has the specified prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Meetings
• Tuesday 9:30am-10:30am NCB-120 (IMC in North Campus Building)
• Friday 9:30am-11:30am NCB-120 (IMC in North Campus Building)

Instructor
Dr. Jason Stanford Talbot College Rm. TC334
jstanfo@uwo.ca

Office Hours: TBD by class schedule survey
Also by individual appointment

Computer Support
IMC Technician: Mr. Brent Rodger imctch@uwo.ca
519-661-2111 x87850

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course students will be able to discuss, in detail, concepts pertaining to acoustics, psychoacoustics, and music technology, including technical and technological notions related to the use of technology in music applications.

Course Activities

The activities of the course will include: active reduced listening, discussion, and identification of various types of audio effects/phenomena from recordings, weekly quizzes, small assignments and/or worksheets, and two in-class written/aural tests.
Attendance is mandatory and will ensure student progress in this course. Students are required to sign an attendance sheet at the beginning of each lecture.

A written/aural quiz will be given every Friday on the course content covered in the previous week. A written/aural test will be given in Week 6 covering the content of the 4 previous weeks (quizzes 1-4). A second written/aural test (quizzes 5-7) will take place in Week 11. Students will be tested on key technical and/or technological concepts and terminology/definitions. Listening segments of each quiz/test, if any, will require students to identify individual pieces and/or describe in detail any particular audio effects present in the excerpt.

Assignments may be given verbally, or in writing during lectures, and may include sections on terminology/comprehension. Some assignments may include a library and/or web research component. In order to complete some assignments students may be required to demonstrate skill and facility in the use of specific hardware and/or software. Please do not underestimate the time required to master hardware and software concepts. Believe me when I say that you cannot cram in order to demonstrate technical facility through hardware or software.

All work is to be completed within the Interdisciplinary Media Centre (IMC) Computer lab, located in the North Campus Building, room NCB-120, outside of class time. On occasion, lecture may take place in the CEARP Studio (TC344b) in Talbot College. Students will be informed of a room change via email at least 24 hours in advance of lecture.

Students are permitted access to use the computers within the IMC Lab on a weekly basis, during any unsupervised free times (See IMC Schedule for available times). The key to success in this course is regular work, if you invest the time, you will understand the concepts.

Course Materials and Resources

Software
The two main software titles used by students in this course are: Max 5 by Cycling’74, and Pro Tools 11 by Avid. Both software titles are installed in the IMC Lab and in the CEARP Studio.

Textbooks
There is no textbook for this course, rather, any readings will be drawn from a diverse variety of different sources, and will be available on course reserve in the Music Library in the Music 1695B course binder, and may also sent to students via email or made available online.

Notebooks
There will be a significant number of hand-outs for this class, and to keep these hand-outs together and in order, please utilize a 3-ring binder.
In addition to a binder, you will find that a notebook will come in handy to jot down important points from lectures, as well as to keep a record of your own technical observations. Notebooks work best when they are clearly dated.

**Listening List**
The entire listening list for the course will be available in the Music Library on course reserve as uncompressed .WAV audio files, on a USB stick (*PLEASE do not erase* the contents of this stick by *dragging-and-dropping* files onto your computer, rather *copy- and-paste* the content). You can also download the listening list from my Google Drive at:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0By7qG2QILQtfOUVpXzdtMWNKeKkU

Hardware and software manuals in PDF format are most often located on the manufacturer's website, or available as HELP files/tutorial files within the programs themselves.

**Storage Media**
Students are required to bring storage media to lectures and independent work session to back up data and archive their work. Unexpected hardware/software failures can and do occur without warning – the regular backup of data is *mandatory*. The University will not be responsible for damaged or lost data. *Typical requirements per student may include USB memory sticks (USB3 large capacity – 16-32GB are inexpensive to purchase).*

**Optional Materials**

**Reference Monitoring**
An accurate listening environment equals accurate aural outcomes when working with digital audio. The IMC does not have any speakers connected to the iMac workstations.

It is strongly suggested that students purchase and bring their own headphones for individual work/listening. Headphones should have a 1/8” connector and 1/8” to 1/4” adapter. Any pair of over-the-ear headphones will suffice. Ear buds, though not ideal, can be used.

If you are interested in investing in a professional-quality pair of studio reference headphones, please see the attached headphone handout.

**Requirements, Dates, and Evaluation**

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>Written assignments, worksheets, if any</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written and Aural Quizzes (10 @ 3%)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written and Aural Test 1</td>
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<td>Written and Aural Test 2</td>
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**Late Submission Policy**
Late written work will only be accepted under the circumstances listed below.

Course work will only be accepted after the due dates under extenuating circumstances, including documented medical or compassionate grounds, or if accommodation has been requested and received *prior to the due date*.

**Notes**
1.) Absence from tests will only be excused if satisfactory medical documentation is provided, or the equivalent for non-medical or compassionate grounds, is submitted to the Faculty of Music Academic Counseling Office, Talbot College (TC210).

2.) Please see notes above for policies on late submission and accommodation, and refer to the University’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness at: [https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login&languageCd=ENG&](https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login&languageCd=ENG&)

3.) Students are expected to complete all assignments and projects independently. The submission of work with which you have received assistance from someone else (other than the course instructor) is an example of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

4.) Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western [http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Studio and Technical Support Policies and Procedures**
Only students enrolled in Music 1695B are permitted to be in the IMC Lab, no other individuals are to be permitted access to the IMC with you. Students must be respectful and considerate of their fellow colleagues by leaving the lab iMac workstations in a clean and usable condition for the next user, and report any hardware/software technical problems immediately.

*Absolutely* no food or un-lidded drinks are allowed in the IMC Lab, and absolutely no food or drinks are allowed in the CEARP Studio.

**Interdisciplinary Media Centre (IMC) Policies**
Please familiarize yourself with the policies and guidelines regarding working in the IMC NCB-120 computer lab. For further information consult the website: [http://www.imc.uwo.ca/index.html](http://www.imc.uwo.ca/index.html)

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Important Dates

MUS 1695B (January-April 2017)

January 5   Classes resume.
February 20  Family Day.
February 20 – 24 Reading Week.
April 7     Last day of Fall/Winter Term
April 8     Study Days
April 9-30  Final examination period.
April 30    Second term ends for all Faculties except Dentistry, Education, Law, and Medicine.