

Dr. J. A. Hodgson (jhodgs5@uwo.ca)

Mus 2708a: Creative Music Technology

Time: MWF 2.30-3.20

Place: TC203

Prior experience in record production is neither assumed nor required for this course!

A “hands-on” survey of common musical uses for computer technology, and the concepts that guide those uses, from a musician’s or interested listener’s point-of-view. Coursework culminates in the creation of an original recording (covers of songs are welcome), uploaded to bandcamp.com, and an accompanying marketing and promotions brief.

Prerequisite(s).

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Required Materials

Jay Hodgson, *Understanding Records: A Field Guide To Recording Practice, 2nd ed.* New York: Bloomsbury, 2019.

Students will need to pay for a monthly subscription to soundtrap.com

Students will also need to use a laptop or iPad connected to the internet via wifi for both in- and out-of class work in Music 2708a.

Topics

1. Psycho/Acoustics
2. Introduction to Sequencing in a Workstation
3. Tracking: Transduction & Sampling
4. MIDI & Software Synthesis
5. Signal Processing
6. Mixing & Mastering
7. Distribution, Marketing & Promotion

Evaluation

Flip/Remix Project (15%): 3 October

Open Synthesis Project (15%): 19 October

Sandbox Mix (10%): 18 November

Final Project (60%): 7 December 2022

Grading scale: A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. *Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.* Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances: • for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams) • absence of a duration greater than 48 hours, • assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade, • if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year. If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. *Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.* Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty. Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Consideration for Missing Work: In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean's office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.

Academic Offences: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered 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, as found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health & Wellness: Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. *Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.*

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. <http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>