



MUSIC 157 Audio Engineering and Production II

Credits:

Location: **Room A154 [Midi Lab]**

Class days and time: **MW 10:30-11:20**

Instructor: **Kelly Kunz**

Office: **A158**

Office Hour: **by appointment**

email: Kelly.kunz@bellevuecollege.edu

Studio Phone:

Class website: accessible through your *MYBC* page

MUSIC 157—Audio Production II [General Description]

Course will cover advanced recording techniques, and will further explore and develop the miking and audio editing techniques covered in Audio 156. Students will learn all phases of producing a musical project from organization, assembling talent, proper pre-production practices, collaboration with artists and/or song writers, production strategies during a recording session and mixing the final product. Topics covered and/or discussed, will also include working with midi and effective drum programming. Additionally, students will be introduced to the concepts of an analog studio. Enrollment in the class entitles the student to access the midi lab and recording studio as available during posted hours. Course requires each student to either work in tandem with a partner, or individually produce a significant production project as well as successfully completing all class assignments and quizzes.

Requirements:

1. Stereo Headphones.
2. USB Flash Drive [at least 4 GB] or some other portable storage drive.

Optional:

It is suggested that you subscribe to Lynda.com for the quarter. This is an outstanding educational website that provides thorough demonstration of many of the topics and techniques that will be used in class.

Outcomes from Course to include:

1. Understand different microphone types & patterns.
2. Understand and demonstrate usage of advanced headphone monitoring system.
3. Understand and demonstrate how to engineer and produce multiple performers in a recording environment.
4. Understand and demonstrate basic analog sound practices and how to operate a Toft analog recording console.
5. Understand and demonstrate how to use digital audio plug-ins for audio tracking and mixing.

6. Understand and demonstrate how to mic up a full band and other assorted musical combinations. Including the use of DI's and other assorted microphone techniques.
7. Demonstrate fundamental operational techniques in Pro Tools software.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of digital and analog pathways.
9. Demonstrate thorough understanding in using digital auxiliary busses.
10. Demonstrate effective mixing practices, including effective musical balancing and effective use of EQ.
11. How to effectively program drum parts
12. How to use midi in Pro Tools and Digital Performer
13. How to use the audio tuning features of Digital Performer

Topics to be reviewed or covered in course:

Basic Audio recording review
 Effective use of Pro Tools Edit and Mix groups
 Effectively managing computer resources
 Working with Elastic Audio and Beat Detective
 Using Pro Tools Automation
 Techniques for Recording and Over-dubbing audio
 Auto Punching
 Layering
 Effective monitoring and headphone mixes
 When to use Stereo vs. Mono
 Using Plug-ins
 Using Virtual Instruments
 Effective use of grouping for mixing purposes
 How to effectively use midi elements to augment productions
 Effective evaluative and listening skills
 Developing effective communication skills within the session

Grading Criteria: Attendance, assignments, quizzes, lab hours & projects.

Attendance: (25% of grade).

School policy states that if a student misses class 20% of the time or more, they may receive a failing grade. When put in the context of this hybrid course, that equates to missing 4 scheduled days of class. For every unexcused absence beyond one, a student's grade will automatically be reduced by .5.

It is the responsibility of the student to communicate with the instructor regarding *excused* absences. This must be done in person and in writing via email. If instructor doesn't receive an email before noon, the day of class or previous notice, that absence will be considered *unexcused*. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class, should a student show up late to class, it is solely the responsibility of the student to be sure they were not marked absent, but, do not interrupt class to do so. Do it after class. If a student is sick or has some sort of unforeseeable emergency, it is the student's responsibility to

inform the instructor via e-mail within 24 hours.

Assignments: (25% of grade).

Some assignments will be pass/fail and some assignments will be graded. The grading criteria for each assignment will be explained when the assignment is given. Late assignments will not be reviewed or excepted unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor. All assignments will be due no later than 11 PM on Sunday nights.

Quizzes: (25% of grade).

When given, quizzes will be made available starting on Wednesday mornings and must be completed no later than Sunday nights by 11 PM. All quizzes will be graded. All quizzes will be online and will be timed. Students should consult the courses online calendar for specific dates. Instructor reserves the right to change the quiz schedule at any time so be sure to check your Canvas calendar daily.

Project(s): (25% of grade).

Your individual or small group projects are a significant part of this course. It is the student's opportunity to apply your developing production and engineering skills to projects you choose to work on. Emphasis is placed on the successful and thorough planning, timely execution and completion of a professional level recording project.

Important:

Students are expected to adhere to all studio and lab etiquette requirements and expectations associated with this class. Not doing so will likely result in a loss of studio privileges and consequently, a failing grade for the quarter. This includes not showing up for previously scheduled studio sessions.

Instructor Illness:

Students should check the Canvas site every morning **before** coming to class. If the instructor is unexpectedly ill or cannot be in class that day, it WILL be posted on as an announcement in Canvas no later than 8 AM.

Lab Hours:

The midi lab is expected to be open from 2:30-9:00 M-TH, 4:00-7:00 PM on Fridays and 12-6 on the weekends. Lab is closed during all holidays and all days in which there are no student classes, such as teacher workdays, etc.

of Grade)

Recording Studio Hours:

M-TH	2:30 – 9 PM
Fridays	1 – 5:30 PM
Sat/Sun	Noon – 6 PM

Recording Projects: IMPORTANT!

Students from Audio 157 must get busy and make their best attempt to get the majority of their studio time completed during the 1st 6 to 8 weeks of the quarter as the last 3 or 4 weeks are primarily set aside for Audio 156 students.

Minimum Studio Requirements: a minimum of 3 meaningful sessions is required of each student. This can be a tracking, practicing or a mixing session.

Studio Time/Session Limitations: Students must schedule studio time with the understanding that there are approximately 20 other students also trying to use the studio. Please do not book sessions of more than 4 hours in length without clearing it with the instructor. Please book times that are conducive to other students. (This will be discussed in class). Studio time will be given on a first come, first serve basis, so scheduling recording studio time at the beginning of the quarter and pre-planning your quarterly projects is very important. Students found overusing the studio at the expense of other students, run the risk of having their sessions cancelled by the instructor without previous notice.

Signing up for Studio Time:

Be sure to put your phone number on the studio calendar. If you are running late, call the studio monitor on duty to let them know your status. Don't run late unless it is an emergency.

Studio B:

Studio B (by the choir room) will be up and running, but the hours will be more limited than they were in the fall. Studio B is primarily reserved only for Audio 157 students. Hours will be posted ASAP.

BC Policies**Student Responsibility:**

Instructors may, at their discretion, agree to accept student work that is submitted in various ways, including in person, to the division office, or via e-mail. It is the student's responsibility to verify that all assignments are actually received by the instructor, whether they are submitted in person or electronically.

It is the student's responsibility, not the instructor's, to initiate communication about progress or concerns with the course. Instructors are under no obligation to inform students that work is over-due, to nag students to complete assignments, or to call students who fail to attend class. Similarly, students need to keep themselves informed about syllabus changes that may have been made in class. We suggest finding a partner the first week of classes and keeping each other up to date if one is absent.

MUS 157 Attendance Policy: Since this course covers many different aspects of audio production including music software, recording hardware, digital musical editing techniques and recording techniques, it is not in the students best interest to miss class. If student is sick or has a family emergency it is ***the students responsibility*** to inform the instructor via e-mail. Any student that misses an in-class quiz, without prior notification,

will not be given a make-up opportunity. If a student is given a make-up opportunity, the make-up quiz/exam must occur within 7 days.

BC Attendance policy:

Attendance at all scheduled class meetings is mandatory. This requirement is particularly meant to apply to courses that are designated for classroom delivery, although distance education courses may also have certain attendance requirements. This requirement is intended 1) to prevent instructors from having to adjudicate individual excuses, and 2) to recognize that excuses are ultimately irrelevant both here at BC and in the workplace.

While specific attendance requirements are up to individual faculty members, the Arts and Humanities Division recognizes that attending class and participating actively are perhaps the most important way in which students can set themselves up for success. Conversely, not attending class almost certainly leads to failure.

Students in performance courses (Drama, Music, etc.) are reminded that attendance builds the professional relationship necessary between partners or in working groups.

In order for students to be eligible for a grade in a course, they must not miss more than ten classes, or 20% of the total class time scheduled, for any reason. When absences go beyond ten, instructors may a) give a grade of "F" for the course, or b) lower the final grade as much as they see fit. This does not imply that you may be absent fewer than ten times or 20% without seeing an effect on your grade; indeed, we wish to emphasize that any absence undermines your progress and will result in your having to work harder to catch up. Ten absences or 20% is merely the figure beyond which you cannot go without risking your eligibility for a course grade. In cases of legitimate hardship, students may also request that instructors grant a "HW" (hardship withdrawal), which is a non-credit grade.

In summary, when you are absent from a class more than ten times or 20% in any given quarter, you may receive a failing grade. Whatever written policy an instructor has in the syllabus will be upheld by the Arts and Humanities Division in any grievance process.