Creative Arts and Industries

MUS 130 : Introduction to Music Production (15 POINTS)

Course Prescription

A survey of the production technology available to assist musicians, and an introduction to modern music production. Topics include: Modern DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) functionality, MIDI and audio recording/editing, synthesis, and multi-track mixing.

Course Overview

A basic understanding of music technology is a requirement for the well-rounded musician. Elementary knowledge of, and experience in instrumental recording and digital audio workstation (DAW) production is a highly desirable attribute, and one that is essential to a number of musical disciplines.

This course aims to provide students with the elementary skills required to produce music within a digital audio workstation (DAW) environment. Students will be taught the fundamentals of MIDI technology including recording and editing in conjunction with use of audio files to create multi-layered musical arrangements. Students will be familiarised with basic microphone recording techniques, multi-track technology and the general paradigm in which computer music is produced.

Course Requirements

Restriction: MUS 119

Capabilities Developed in this Course

Capability 1:   Disciplinary Knowledge and Practice
Capability 2:   Critical Thinking
Capability 3:   Solution Seeking
Capability 4:   Communication and Engagement
Capability 5:   Independence and Integrity
Capability 6:   Social and Environmental Responsibilities

Graduate Profile: Bachelor of Music

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Utilise a digital audio workstation to record and edit musical performances. (Capability 1, 2 and 3)
2. Use and apply multi-track technology to create musical arrangements. (Capability 1, 2, 3 and 5)
3. Manage digital audio files effectively (Capability 1, 5 and 6)
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the distinctions between MIDI and audio, and how multi-tracking can be used as a compositional tool. (Capability 1, 2 and 4)
5. Demonstrate proficiency with audio software (Capability 1, 2 and 3)
6. Create music within a digital environment (Capability 1, 2 and 3)
7. Produce a digital master of your work (Capability 1, 2 and 3)

Assessments

Assessment Type	Percentage	Classification
Practical Assignment 1	30%	Individual Coursework
Practical Assignment 2	30%	Individual Coursework
Class Exercises	10%	Individual Coursework
Mix Exercise	10%	Individual Coursework
Test	20%	Individual Test
5 types	100%	

Assessment Type	Learning Outcome Addressed						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Practical Assignment 1	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Practical Assignment 2	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Class Exercises	✔				✔		
Mix Exercise			✔		✔	✔	
Test				✔			

Assignments are to be submitted, according to submission type specified on CANVAS, by the due date. In the event of illness or other circumstances that prevent completing an assignment, please contact the course coordinator with evidence as appropriate before the due date. Late assignments that do not have an approved extension will be penalized 10% for each day or part thereof. No assignment will be accepted after that assignment has been returned to students.

Teaching & Learning Methods

This course is being offered online - with two 2-hour lectures and one 1-hour tutorial per week as enrolled. Lectures cover knowledge, skills and background; and tutorials cover practical skills - as such, attendance at both is necessary.

In addition staff office hours will be posted on Canvas.

Workload Expectations

This course is a standard 15 point course and students are expected to spend 10 hours per week involved in each 15 point course that they are enrolled in.

For this course, you can expect 24 hours of lectures, 11 tutorials, 72 hours of reading and thinking about the content and 42 hours of work on assignments and/or test preparation.

Learning Resources

All necessary reading materials, digital and online resources will be provided via a learning and collaboration tool called Canvas.

Student Feedback

At the end of every semester students will be invited to give feedback on the course and teaching through a tool called SET or Qualtrics. The lecturers and course co-ordinators will consider all feedback and respond with summaries and actions.

Your feedback helps teachers to improve the course and its delivery for future students.

Class Representatives in each class can take feedback to the department and faculty staff-student consultative committees.

Other Information

Attendance: Given the practical nature of the course, students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials, to conduct weekly reading, practical and listening tasks, to engage in exercises and discussion, and to complete all required coursework.

Digital Resources

Course materials are made available in a learning and collaboration tool called Canvas which also includes reading lists and lecture recordings (where available).

Please remember that the recording of any class on a personal device requires the permission of the instructor.

Academic Integrity

The University of Auckland will not tolerate cheating, or assisting others to cheat, and views cheating in coursework as a serious academic offence. The work that a student submits for grading must be the student's own work, reflecting their learning. Where work from other sources is used, it must be properly acknowledged and referenced. This requirement also applies to sources on the internet. A student's assessed work may be reviewed against online source material using computerised detection mechanisms.

Inclusive Learning

All students are asked to discuss any impairment related requirements privately, face to face and/or in written form with the course coordinator, lecturer or tutor.

Student Disability Services also provides support for students with a wide range of impairments, both visible and invisible, to succeed and excel at the University. For more information and contact details, please visit the Student Disability Services' website http://disability.auckland.ac.nz

Special Circumstances

If your ability to complete assessed coursework is affected by illness or other personal circumstances outside of your control, contact a member of teaching staff as soon as possible before the assessment is due.

If your personal circumstances significantly affect your performance, or preparation, for an exam or eligible written test, refer to the University's aegrotat or compassionate consideration page https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/academic-information/exams-and-final-results/during-exams/aegrotat-and-compassionate-consideration.html.

This should be done as soon as possible and no later than seven days after the affected test or exam date.

In the event of unexpected disruption

We undertake to maintain the continuity and standard of teaching and learning in all your courses throughout the year. If there are unexpected disruptions, the University has contingency plans to ensure that access to your course continues and your assessment is fair, and not compromised. Some adjustments may need to be

made in emergencies. In the event of a disruption, the University and your course coordinators will make every effort to provide you with up to date information via Canvas and the University website.

Student Charter and Responsibilities

The Student Charter assumes and acknowledges that students are active participants in the learning process and that they have responsibilities to the institution and the international community of scholars. The University expects that students will act at all times in a way that demonstrates respect for the rights of other students and staff so that the learning environment is both safe and productive. For further information visit Student Charter https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/forms-policies-and-guidelines/student-policies-and-guidelines/student-charter.html.

Disclaimer

Elements of this outline may be subject to change. The latest information about the course will be available for enrolled students in Canvas.

In this course you may be asked to submit your coursework assessments digitally. The University reserves the right to conduct scheduled tests and examinations for this course online or through the use of computers or other electronic devices. Where tests or examinations are conducted online remote invigilation arrangements may be used. The final decision on the completion mode for a test or examination, and remote invigilation arrangements where applicable, will be advised to students at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date of the assessment, or in the case of an examination when the examination timetable is published.