Nashville State Community College
Business & Applied Arts Division
Music Technology

Master Course Syllabus

This master course syllabus is meant simply as a guide and overview of the course. Each instructor will further clarify their criteria for grading, classroom procedures, attendance, exams and dates, etc. on his/her course syllabus.

Course Title: MST-1230 Studio Recording II
Credits 3
Class Hours 2 Class Hours, 2 Lab Hours
Course description from catalog including prerequisites and co-requisites. A continuation of MST 1130. Topics include digital audio, tape machine alignment, mixing, stereo microphone techniques, and the creative use of signal processors. Prerequisite(s): MST 1130
Not part of a Tennessee Transfer Pathway

Instructor Information:
Name:
Email:
Office Phone:
Office Location:
Office Hours:

Textbook and Other Materials:

Reference Materials: Internet access outside of normal class hours may be required to complete some homework assignments and quiz activities. Students that do not have Internet access may need to schedule time in the college computer labs.

Supplies: TBD

Course Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Select and apply appropriate microphone techniques to a variety of situations.
2. Configure a mixing console and digital audio workstation.
3. Diagram audio signal flow throughout the studio.
4. Set up, record, and mix live musical performances using techniques learned in this course and MST 1130.
Course Competencies:
The following are detailed course competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

1. Select and apply appropriate microphone techniques to a variety of situations.
   a. Identify the two ways in which purist stereo is created using two microphones.
   b. Recognize and describe common stereo microphone configurations.
   c. Describe the pros and cons of common stereo miking techniques.
   d. Set up common stereo microphone configurations.
   e. Make appropriate microphone choices for a variety of sound sources.

2. Configure a mixing console and digital audio workstation.
   a. Describe the pros and cons of different digital sampling rates.
   b. Describe the pros and cons of different digital bit depths.
   c. Describe the purpose of dither in digital to analog conversion.
   d. Describe the purpose of a digital clock.
   e. Define jitter and describe its causes.
   f. Identify the components of a mixing console.

3. Diagram audio signal flow throughout the studio.
   a. Set up and route microphone and preamplifier signals.
   b. Direct multi-track signal flow.
   c. Route audio signal flow through a mixing console.
   d. Creatively route audio signal flow using a patch bay.

4. Set up, record, and mix live musical performances using techniques learned in this course and MST 1130.
   a. Record live musicians and other sounds using stereo miking creatively.
   b. Mic a drum set to specifications.
   c. Mic an acoustic piano to specifications.
   d. Mic a string ensemble to specifications.
   e. Mic a vocal ensemble to specifications.
   f. Mic acoustic and electric guitars to specifications.
   g. Direct Insertion techniques for electronic instruments and bass guitar.
   h. Determine appropriate studio set-ups for a variety of recording situations.
   i. Identify and address audio phase/polarity issues during recording.
   j. Make appropriate preamplifier choices for a variety of sound sources.
   k. Operate a recording console as specified.
   l. Operate a multi-track recorder.
   m. Maintain and organize recording session documents.
   n. Perform multi-track mixing.
   o. Conduct a live recording session with reference to notes and other materials.
   p. Use signal processors creatively.
   q. Remove and store microphones properly without supervision
   r. Wrap and store cables and stands properly without supervision

The following are general education competencies intended to support the course outcomes:
Topics to Be Covered:
Week 1  Introduction and class description. General discussion of students’ goals and expectations. Review of topics covered in MST 1130.
Week 2  Our Mixing Console Review
Week 3  Signal flow Connecting audio equipment and making it work.
Week 4  Stereo miking techniques.
Week 5  Basic principles of digital audio converters. Creative problem solving in the studio.
Week 6  Mixing. Review for mid-term exam.
Week 7  Mid-term exam. (March 4, 2015)
Week 8  Live recording.
Week 9  Live recording.
Week 10 Live recording.
Week 11 Live recording.
Week 12 Field trip recording or studio visit.
Week 13 Review for final exam.
Week 14 Final exam. (May 6, 2015)
Note: This course outline is subject to change at any time during the semester.

Course Assessments:
The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students’ understanding, knowledge and skills:
Final grades are based on attendance, participation, exams (50% [mid-term-25%, final-25%]), assignments (25%), and quizzes (25%).

Grading Policy:

Grading Scale:
A =
B =
C =
D =
F =
FA (see below)
FN (see below)

Per TBR policy, a student who does not officially drop or withdraw from a course, but receives a failing grade, will receive an “FA” if the last day of attendance was earlier than two-thirds into the part-of-term. That date equates to the last day to withdraw from the course.

An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:
Each instructor will provide policy.
**Attendance Policy**
A student is expected to attend all scheduled classes and laboratories. Absences in a course may affect a student’s final grade. The student is responsible for all assigned work in the course regardless of excused or unexcused absences. Tardiness may also affect a student's final grade.

**D2L Brightspace/NSOnline and myNSCC email**
It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L and MyNSCC email on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students. Students are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L contains specific course information and MyNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

**Technology Statement**
Nashville State's classes are considered to be web-enhanced. Faculty have an expectation that students will use a computer and the Internet to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through Desire2Learn (D2L) course shells. Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.

**ADA Compliance Statement**
Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you wish to request any special accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721.

**Classroom Misconduct**
Nashville State Community College has a zero tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. The Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy is available at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or unattended on campus.

**Academic Misconduct**
Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and aiding by the Academic Misconduct Policy in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct that can be found at https://s3.amazonaws.com/nscc.edu/PDFs/dean-students/Student_Code_of_Conduct_Policy.pdf

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “Zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination or to assign an “F” for the course. Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

**Academic Early Warning System**
Nashville State Community College has implemented an Early Warning System to notify students via e-mail about academic problems such as poor classroom attendance, poor
performance on assignments/tests, poor communication skills, late/missing assignments, and/or lack of classroom participation. *Please note that Early Warning Alerts do not affect a student's academic standing.

**RAVE Emergency Alert System**

Emergency events can happen at any time and Nashville State Community College wants to be able notify students if and when they occur. For this reason, all students have been enrolled in the free RAVE alert system. If you have not already done so, please log in at [https://getrave.com/login/nscc](https://getrave.com/login/nscc) to confirm and update your contact information and notification preferences. It is critical that your information be correct so that you will receive any emergency notifications. Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address. If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select “Forgot your password?” and a new password will be emailed to you. Should the RAVE system indicate “user not found”, select Register and create your own RAVE account.

**Inclement Weather Policy**

Nashville State will use the RAVE alert system to send a text message to students, staff, and faculty about adjusted hours of operation and/or closings at individual campuses. All students should check the Nashville State web site home page at www.nscc.edu for announcements on campus closures, which may vary from campus to campus. Campus closures will also be announced on local television stations.

When classes are cancelled, an online assignment will be posted in NS Online. Check NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements.

Students should use their own best judgment in determining whether to report to campus during inclement weather when classes are not cancelled.

**Class Cancellation Policy**

If the class is cancelled, the instructor will notify all students by posting in the NSOnline/D2L course, e-mailing through NSOnline/D2L, and/or by posting a sign on the classroom door. In the event of class cancellation, students must access NSOnline/D2L to complete classwork and the assignment that will be posted in the course D2L site.