

## INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRONIC MUSIC - MTC 362 001, Fall 2009.

**Instructor:** Herbert Midgley

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**Email :** hmidgley@sfasu.edu (Please use this email not BlackBoard or my gmail account) **Department** Music

**Webpage:** www.herbertmidgley.com **Office Hours: Office Hours: MWF 11&1 T TH 12:15 & 4**

**Office:** Room 310 A Fine Arts Building., 3rd Floor inside the MIDI Lab

**Class Time and Place :** 12:30 pm-1:45 pm -T TH (Lecture 1<sup>st</sup> Hour) (Lab and group work 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour) - FA 310

**Course Description:** 3 semester hours credit, 2 hours lecture per week, 2 hours laboratory per week. Discussion of and hands-on experience with tape recorders, mixers, synthesizers, microcomputer and other equipment necessary to the production of electronic music. Some knowledge of music notation or keyboard is helpful but not necessary. May be repeated for credit.

**Class Goals:** The goal of this class is for you to learn how to enjoy music by composing your own music with the use of music technology.

**Texts:** No text is required. The best way to learn about music technology is to get hands on experience. All equipment manuals are available and you will learn through them while at a computer.

**Journal Notebook:** You will need to keep a notebook since technical explanations can be rather difficult to understand at first. You will also need the notebook to keep a record of the sounds you're using for your composition. The other purpose of Journal Notebook is so that you can keep a log of lab hours that you work each week.

**Class Attendance:** I expect you to be present, and on time at all class meetings. Three unexcused absences will cut your final grade by one letter, four by two letters, etc. This includes lab sessions. You are responsible for all notes, power point presentations, recordings, and films/videos presented in class. Due the size of this class, no talking, sleeping, eating, reading newspapers, text messaging or cell phone use during class will be tolerated. All of these activities disrupt the educational process. If these common courtesies are not observed, you will be invited to leave the class. **NO CELL PHONES OUT DURING CLASS!** I will take roll by having you turn in a paper on what you learn the day of lecture. You can not make this up, either you were in class or you were not.

***You can not make up missed Group work and Skill test. (Come to Class!)***

**Materials:**

- 1) 4 CD-Rs to turn in your projects on or to take home and listen to after a session and a DVD-R to burn your Music Video.
- 2) You will need one USB Thumb Drive if you want to back up your data. These are available in the bookstore.
- 3) Journal Notebook

**All Projects will be turn in CD and DVD format and papers in a folder.**

| <b>Grading:</b>            | <b>Grading Scale:</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Class Participation -25%   | 90-100=A              |
| Mid-Term/paper -25%        | 80-89 =B              |
| Final Project/paper- 25%   | 70-79 =C              |
| Group Projects/paper - 25% | 60-69 =D              |
|                            | 00-59 =F              |

**The Mid-Term project** will be a 2-5 minute composition. It will be due the week of mid-term. **The Final project** will be a 3-10 minute composition will be due on the day of the final. These projects should be original, composed and produced by you. You may want to collaborate with somebody else on another project, but the mid-term and the final project should be only one person's work. Frequently, some of you will get together and help each other and that's O.K. But I want to know that each of you understands how to operate the computer, the RS-50 and the *GarageBand* sequencing program on the MAC. You may also use your own equipment to do your projects, but make sure you use it in conjunction with the equipment in the lab.

**Attendance & Lab-time:** You will need work on your for two or three hours of lab time per week. You will be using head phones while you work in the lab. They're very lightweight to help keep your neck from getting tired, but they're also quite fragile. I will generally be around to help you if you have any problems (and there will be quite a few at first) during your lab times. Don't hesitate to ask me for help.

**Please don't re-route** (unplug, re-plug, de-plug, etc.) any equipment through the Mixer. The next person to use the lab will have no idea of what's going on. If you want to plug your own equipment into the mixer; there are some empty ports. You will need MONO 1/4" jacks to patch in. Be sure and unplug your equipment when you are finished each time and be careful not to knock anything over!

**This class may be repeated for credit.**

*Students with documented disabilities who need course adaptations or accommodations please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.*

**The syllabus may be amended at anytime due to the overall performance of the class.**

### Program Learning Outcomes

This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

#### Student/Learning Outcomes: What students should know or be able to do as a result of this course:

- 1) The student will demonstrate the skill of using midi software
- 2) The student will demonstrate basic knowledge about midi
- 3) The student will demonstrate the skill of composing their own songs using music technology software
- 4) Through group work, students will demonstrate the ability to create music with other students
- 5) Through group work, students will demonstrate the ability analyze and critic other students' compositions
- 6) The student will demonstrate basic computer skills
- 7) The student will be encouraged to develop the skill of time management by preparing for class during their lab hours
- 8) The student will be encouraged to develop the basic piano skills
- 9) The student will be encouraged to develop an interest in diverse music genres
- 10) The student will be encouraged to develop basic skills to make audio CDs

| Week  | Topic   | Date                            |
|-------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1     | Introduction to MIDI: internet Search on What is MIDI                                     | September 1                     |
| 2     | GarageBand I Basics - Planning a Song   | September 8                     |
| 3     | GarageBand II Cut and Paste- Over Dub Recording   | September 15                    |
| 4     | GarageBand III Looping  | September 22                    |
| 5     | GarageBand IV Quantize- Midi Mixer  | September 29                    |
| 6     | GarageBand V Editing- Notation  | October 6                       |
| 7     | GarageBand VI Digital Audio Recording   | October 13                      |
| 8     | Midterm- Burn CD Digital Recording: iTunes  | October 20                      |
| 9     | GarageBand basics VII Digital Recording: Audacity I                                       | October 27                      |
| 10    | Digital Recording: Audacity II  | November 3                      |
| 11    | iMovie basics I - Planning a Music Video  | November 10                     |
| 12    | iMovie basics I – Editing, Adding Music - Titles – Effects                                | November 17                     |
| 13    | iMovie basics I - Compression & Music Video: Post on the Web                              | November 24                     |
| 14    | Promote your Music Video. IDVD Part 1   | December 1                      |
| 15    | iDVD I - Making a DVD Part 2  | December 8                      |
| Final | Final Paper: How can you use this Class in your life? What did you learn from this Class? | Day of the Final<br>December 15 |

| Projects |     | Date Due   |              |
|----------|-----|--|--------------|
| 1        |     | What is Midi Web Search (1 page Essay)   | September 8  |
| 2        |     | Song Review (1 page Essay)   | September 15 |
| 3        |     | History of your Favorite Musical Artist or Group/Band  | September 22 |
| 4        |     | CD Review 1 (1 page Essay)   | September 29 |
| 5        |     | The History of your Favorite Musical Genre   | October 6    |
| 6        |     | How the music industry has changed since 1999?   | October 13   |
| 7        | 25% | Mid Term Project – (2 plus minutes long) Paper on what did you learn from this project. 2 pages. | October 20   |
| 8        |     | Group Project - Songwriting  | October 27   |
| 9        |     | Music Video Review (1 page Essay)  | November 3   |
| 10       |     | The History of Downloading Music.  | November 10  |
| 11       |     | How to make your Music Video Viro.   | November 17  |
| 12       |     | Music Video Review (1 page Essay)  | November 24  |
| 13       | 25% | Group Project - Music Video and EP CD Make a Music Video and an EP CD with Cover.                | December 1   |

|    |           |  |                                 |
|----|-----------|--|---------------------------------|
|    |           | A Paper on what did you learn from this project. (We will watch all of the groups' music videos in class.) |                                 |
| 14 | 25%       | Final Project - (3 plus minutes long.) Paper on what did you learn from this project. 2 pages.             | December 8                      |
| 15 |           | Final Paper: How can you use this Class in your life? What did you learn from this Class? 2 pages.         | December 15<br>Day of the Final |
| 16 | Up to 10% | Extra Credit - CD reviews- papers- powerpoint-sequences, music videos, songs etc                           | December 9                      |
|    |           |  |                                 |
| 17 | 25%       | Class Participation  | All Semester                    |
|    |           | 100% Class Attendance, Participation, Group Work   |                                 |

### **Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

### Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic\\_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

### **Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

### **Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a

timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to <http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/>.