

This course will offer an overview of music production techniques and technology, as applied to the music production industry, including fundamental recording, and editing techniques, music notation software, proper preparation, and handling of files via storage clouds and external drives, use of MIDI, management of Digital Audio Workstations (DAW) and multimedia applications. The application of these media to composition, songwriting and multimedia applications will be emphasized.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. Basic audio and composition will equip the student for today's post COVID home studio and musical industry requirements. The music industry has experienced a tremendous shift towards personal growth regarding music production, around the areas of composition, arranging, music notation, and networking. This course is designed to guide the student on how to navigate the essential aspects of a digital interface, in conjunction with a digital audio workstation. While learning the essential aspects of digital recording, music notation software is crucial within the process of any music project. This course is the perfect opportunity for students to combine acquired knowledge and expertise from Keyboard Skills, Musicianship, and Theory I & II. This course is taught in A-09B (A26), our digital composition and music lab, equipped with computer stations and appropriate musical technologies and software.
- B. This course does not have a lab component.
- C. Course Transferability: This course will likely only transfer as an advanced Arts elective in Music or Fine Arts, dependent on the transfer institution.
 - 1. This course will not transfer as a general education course.
 - 2. This course could generally transfer as a music program requirement.
 - 3. This course generally transfers as a music program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- 1. Free elective
- 2. This course serves as a program requirement for the Music, Production option in Music, AFA degree
- 3. This course serves as a program option for the Music, Applied Music option in Music, AFA degree
- 4. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for other colleges and universities, go to the individual college website.

V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Pre-set a cloud or storage utility system.
Creating a pre-set work storage system will enable the student to save, share, and continue their work with time efficiency.

1. Document sharing using services such as We Transfer (wetransfer.com), a free (limited up to 2 gigs) file platform that helps students share big documents including, PDF'S, VID, Wave Files (WAVE), mp3's, and recording sessions.
 2. I Cloud, Google Drive, and Drop Box will be also discussed, as well as SSD external drives and thumb drives, 32 G minimum storage capacity required.
- B. Creating a session using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW).
1. Getting familiarized with the operating system of the DAW, and how to pre-set storage for workflow.
 2. Creating audio mono and stereo tracks.
 3. Creating software instrument tracks.
- C. Music Notation Software. (such as Finale, MuesScore and/or Sibelius)
Music notation software should be a mandatory elective for any music major program that offers composition, or any music production course.
- D. Independent projects. Students will be expected to complete at least one work, either vocal or instrumental, which may be used in their portfolio, for application to composition programs at 4-year colleges (e.g., Montclair State). These projects will be evaluated in a workshop/master class format on a weekly basis.
- E. Performance. The student will be responsible for performing his work in an in-class concert at the end of the semester.
- F. The students will be required to critique the final performances.

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

1. Record and edit live performance.
2. Create and perform original compositions. (GE-1,6)
3. Communicate and collaborate with performers in preparing a performance of their original work. (GE-1, 6, *)
4. Critically evaluate their own works in progress and revise/edit them. (GE-1, 6, *)
5. Develop music notational skills, particularly through digital notational software. (GE- 4)

(*Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

1. Portfolio: original composition(s)
2. Exercises: modeling assignments
3. In class performances (assessment of communication and collaboration with

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Modeling Exercises—assessment of the student’s ability to apply topics presented in class to their own creative work.
- B. Independent Composition—assessment of student’s ability to synthesize and integrate skills presented in class into his/her own creative voice.
- C. Completion and evaluation of assignments and creative projects.
- D. Individual effort, progress, participation, attendance

Primary formats, modes and methods of teaching and learning:

- A. Lecture/discussion (lectures, analyses, critiques)
- B. Modeling assignments (composition exercises based on pre-existing models)
- C. Student presentations (performances of original work)
- D. Small group work and collaboration (performances)

VIII. Texts and Materials

Text such as: Tim Dittmar, Audio Engineering 101, 2nd ed. (Taylor & Francis, 2018).

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

This course will be taught in A-09B (A26), our digital composition and music lab, equipped with computer stations and appropriate musical technologies and software, including Reason and Finale.

Students may be required to supply:

- SSD drive or thumb drive 32 G recommended.
- Headphones (1/4 inch) Male to 3.5mm (1/8 inch)

X. Check One: Honors Course Honors Options N/A