

MUSI 4390
Class Number 22023
TTh 9:30am — 10:50am
FA 301

RECORDING
TECHNIQUES I
Spring 2012 Syllabus

Professor Micah Hayes
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Prerequisite: Student must have earned a C or better in Digital Music Technology (MUSI 3394).

Description: Students will primarily learn to engineer recordings in classical and jazz genres (pop music engineering is covered in Recording Techniques II). Students will also study audio theory, including but not limited to signal flow, microphone theory, and the physics of sound. Analyzing the quality of both professional and student recordings will also be an important component of the course.

Student Learning Outcomes: After successfully completing this course, students will:

- Be able to engineer professional-sounding recordings in the classical and jazz genres
- Have a solid understanding of audio theory, including but not limited to signal flow, microphone theory, the physics of sound, and digital audio
- Be able to analyze the quality of both professional and student recordings
- Have a firm introduction in aural skills, including the ability to distinguish and classify frequencies an octave apart (e.g. 500 Hz, 1 kHz, 2kHz, etc.)

Office Hours: Tuesdays from 2pm-3pm and Thursdays from 11am-12pm. I am also available at other times by appointment (contact me via email).

Attendance: Attendance will be taken regularly throughout the semester. Any more than four unexcused absences will bring down your grade by 5%. For example, five absences will cause a 94% to become an 89%, six will cause a 94% to become an 84%, etc. Also, being tardy twice equals one absence. In order for an absence to be excused, the instructor must receive some sort of signed document in writing—e.g. a doctor's note excusing an illness, a letter from a pastor/priest/rabbi or family member excusing absence due to a death in the family, etc. If you would like to leave class early, you must discuss this with me ahead of time in order for the absence to be excused.

Required Materials: *Handbook of Recording Engineering* by Eargle, John (0387284702), Second Printing Edition (Paperback - 2005); Springer—required. *Modern Recording Techniques* by Huber, David Miles and Runstein, Robert (0240806255), Seventh Edition (Paperback - 2005); Focal Press—required. Students will also be given copies of Geoff Martin's pdf/on-line book *Introduction to Sound Recording* (2004 edition); (<http://www.tonmeister.ca/main/textbook/index.html>).

Assignments: Students will regularly be given reading assignments from the three texts mentioned above and will be quizzed randomly on the content. Students will also be assigned various concerts to record in Irons Hall and in Studio 301.

Grading:	Engineered recordings	50%
	Midterm/Final exams	25%

Professionalism (see additional sheet)	10%
Other assignments (listening, etc.)	10%
Quizzes (given randomly)	05%

Grading Scale: A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 0-59%.

Makeup Policy: Late assignments *are not* accepted. If you have extenuating circumstances you must talk to me before the due date and I must approve of a change *in writing*. You will not be allowed to makeup a missed exam unless you arrange an alternative solution *in writing* with me before the exam.

Drop Policy: Refer to the UT Arlington drop policy for drop deadlines and further information.

Studio Security: It is EXTREMELY important that the recording students use proper alarm protocol. After entering the room by swiping your ID and entering your pin, *immediately* punch in the alarm code—any sort of beeping should cease at that point. When exiting, please *punch in the same code*. If something goes wrong and you cannot cancel the alarm, please call the campus police department at (817) 272-3381. Recordings students should not access the room until I put them on the authorized list (I will let you know when that occurs). As the months go by, there will be more and more expensive gear in the studio, so *please* do not give the security code to anyone outside the class. Your maturity and good conduct will keep this program alive. Also, please leave the studio cleaner than you found it.

Communication: I will communicate important information with you via email using the email address you have set up in the MyMav system. You will be held responsible for the information sent there, so ensure you check this email address DAILY. If you need assistance with MyMav, you may contact the Office of Information Technology (<http://oit.uta.edu>).

Important Links:

www.aes.org – Audio Engineering Society homepage

www.aes-sda.org/cms – Student Delegation Assembly site for the AES

www.gearslutz.com – An online forum with all sorts of great information on all kinds of gear

www.tonmeister.ca – The website of Geoff Martin with his book *Introduction to Sound Recording*.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112 -- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans With Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "**reasonable accommodation**" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with **informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2).

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE: The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.