MUSI 4390.001
Class Number 23465
T Th 11:00am—12:20pm
FA 301

RECORDING TECHNIQUES I
Spring 2016 Syllabus

Professor Micah Hayes
Office: FA 306
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Prerequisite: Student must have earned a C or better in Digital Music Technology (MUSI 3394).

Faculty Profile: www.micahhayes.com/facultyprofile

Description: Students will primarily learn to engineer recordings in classical and jazz genres using Irons Hall, as well as assisting advanced recording students in Studio 301. Students will 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 be an important component of the course.

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

- Be able to engineer professional-sounding concert hall recordings in 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: Office hours are available by appointment (contact me via email).

Attendance: Attendance will be taken regularly throughout the semester. At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the following attendance policy:

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. Leaving class early will count as a tardy.

Required Materials: ***Modern Recording Techniques*** by Huber, David Miles and Runstein, Robert (0240821572), Eighth Edition (Paperback - 2013). Students will also be given copies of Geoff Martin's pdf/on-line book ***Introduction to Sound Recording*** (2011 edition); (http://www.tonmeister.ca/main/textbook/index.html).

You will also be **required** to subscribe to an account at **Lynda.com**. This is a video tutorial training site that will help supplement the material we cover in class. Students are **required** to subscribe the first week of class and will be monitored by me throughout the semester. The

approximate cost (after the student discount) is about $36. Students will also have to purchase a timbral ear training app in order to train for the golden ears quizzes.

Assignments: Students will regularly be given reading assignments from the two texts mentioned above and will be quizzed randomly on the content. Students will also be assigned various concerts and performances to record in Irons Hall and in Studio 301. RT I students will also act as an Assistant Engineer for the advanced Recording Techniques III students.

Grading:

Engineered recordings	45%
Midterm/Final exams	25%
Lynda Videos	10%
Assistant Engineer Project	05%
Quizzes (reading, Golden Ears, etc.)	05%
Professionalism (see additional sheet)	05%
Other assignments (listening, etc.)	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 Maintenance and Security: Recording Techniques I students will not have individual access to FA 301 and the microphone collection contained therein. RT I students will gain hands-on experience by recording in Irons Hall using our backstage recording booth, by assisting RT III students in their advanced recording projects, and by participating in the in-class recording sessions that will take place during class time.

After checking out recording equipment, recording students are 100% financially responsible for the care and maintenance of the checked-out equipment until they return it. As the months go by, there will be more and more expensive gear in the studio, so *please* treat the equipment as if it were your own. Your maturity and good conduct will keep this program alive. If something goes wrong and you set off the alarm, please call the campus police department at (817) 272-3381.

Please leave the studio cleaner than you found it and please leave the room set up and lecture-ready (screen down, room open, piano pushed to the side, etc.)

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*.

Approximate Course Schedule: As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students.

Week 1: Introduction to the Course, Studio 301 and Irons Hall
Week 2: Acoustics Lecture and Hands-On Project
Week 3: Microphone Lecture and Hands-On Project
Week 4: Stereo Microphone Lecture and Hands-On Project
Week 5: Accent Microphone Lecture and Hands-On Project / Classical Project Assigned
Week 6: Mix Irons Hall Project in Class / Signal Flow I
Week 7: Signal Flow II Lecture and Hands-On
Week 8: Signal Flow III Lecture and Hands-On
Spring Break
Week 9: Signal Flow IV / Midterm
Week 10: Classical Recording Project Due / Listen to Student Projects
Week 11: Jazz Engineering Project Assigned
Week 12: In Class Hands-On Jazz Recording and Mixing
Week 13: Continue In-Class Projects
Week 14: Golden Ears Quiz 2 / Digital Audio/Media / Reverb Lecture and Hands-On Demo
Week 15: Final (Jazz) Project Due / Listen and Discuss Student Projects
Week 16: Final Exam

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 INTEGRITY: At UT Arlington, academic dishonesty is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form. All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code: *I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.* Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.
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.
DROP POLICY: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao).

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox DAILY. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

FINAL REVIEW WEEK: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

TITLE IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located near FA 302. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.