DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2019

MU2081 (A3): Music Technology II - Audio Engineering and the Recording Studio – 3 (2-0-1)
45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR:	Shawn Pinchbeck	**PHONE:**	780-539-2783
OFFICE:	L118	**E-MAIL:**	spinchbeck@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
This course focuses on theoretical and practical considerations for the recording of professional audio in a state of the art recording studio. Through readings, lectures, labs and multitrack recording projects students will learn about the aesthetics of listening, recording studio design, room acoustics, analogue and digital recording techniques, Digital Audio Workstation software, plugins, automation, synchronization, microphone selection and placement techniques, stereo techniques, using outboard effects, editing, mixing, Pre and Post Production, managing recording sessions, cabling and the use of standard studio equipment.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: MU1081

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:
Text: Modern Recording Techniques, 9th edition. Miles David Huber. Students will need stereo headphones with ¼" inch phono plug adapters.

It is recommended that students purchase their own external hard drives for saving and backing up projects.

DELIVERY MODE(S):
Lecture and lab

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course is intended to give students more experience with DAW recording and its functions, recording studio hardware, and develop their understanding of how all the parts of the recording studio (acoustics, design, hardware and knowledge) come together to make professional recordings. Students will produce recording projects with live performers and will develop to a moderate level of proficiency.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students will be develop a moderate proficiency in the recording studio, be able to record live performers and create a mixdown of their recording session.

TRANSFERABILITY: GMU*, UA, AU, AF, CU, KUC, UL, other

*Warning: Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities**. Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page http://www.transferalberta.ca or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinesearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:
Students will complete four substantial projects graded both on technical merit and artistic merit and will write a final exam.

These works must exhibit proper multi-track digital recording techniques, good editing, good panning and mixing. They should incorporate good use of DSP and EQ, DAW automation for MIDI and audio tracks

All projects must be done with the consultation and approval of the instructor

a) Project 1 (15%) – listening and aesthetics project

b) Project 2 (15%) – in conjunction with voice students

c) Project 3 (20%) – Mastered multitrack recording

c) Project 3 (20%) – Surround recording

Final exam based on topics and practical concepts covered in class (30%)

There may be in class quizzes as required.

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)
Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

a) Project 1 – January 29

b) Project 2 – February 26

c) Project 3 – March 26

c) Project 3 – April 11

Timeline

January 3 – Course introduction

January 8+10 – aesthetics and listening

January 15 + 17 – Recording studio design and acoustics

January 22 + 24 – DAW advanced (automation)

January 29 + 31 – DAW advanced (plugins)

February 5 + 7 – DAW advanced (synchronization)

February 12 + 14 – Microphone techniques advanced

February 19 + 21 – Reading Week

February 26 + 28 – Sound synthesis/MIDI editing

March 5 + 7 – Outboard processing and effects

March 12 + 14 – Mixing

March 19 + 21 – Mastering

March 26 + 28 – Managing a recording session, Pre and Post Production

April 2 + 4 – Surround Sound

April 9 + 11 – Surround Sound

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Arranging for and acquiring performers for recordings is an element of this course, and is the student's responsibility.

Regarding Studio and gear use: Studio times to be signed out by the Recording Studio Manager.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/ or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.