DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2020

MU2291 (A3): Music Technology IV 3(3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Shawn Pinchbeck	**PHONE:**	780-539-2783
OFFICE:	L114	**E-MAIL:**	spinchbeck@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	Wednesday and Thursday 2pm – 3pm		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
Students will develop a critical understanding of the use the recording studio as an instrument to capture the creativity of performing artists. They will be expected to further develop their understanding of the tools available to the audio engineer and work towards developing a professional level of production skills. Students will learn resources and how to do research to further develop their skills and understanding of audio and recording arts. There will be an introduction to the techniques, theories, and practices of audio and video synchronization. The emphasis will be on the production of well mixed and mastered recording projects. Students will be required to take part in recording projects with internal and external clients taking place in the GPRC Recording Studios.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: MU2281

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:
Text: *Modern Recording Techniques 9th edition*. Miles David Huber and *Mastering Audio the Art and Science* 3rd edition by Bob Katz

A quality set of Headphones is required and it is recommended that students purchase their own external hard drives for saving projects. Multi-track audio projects can use large amounts of hard drive space, and students then need not worry about projects being accidentally erased. (500 GB or larger would be ideal)

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Lab

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Students will be expected to have a high level of proficiency in the recording studio and be able to record, produce and master professional projects. Further topics in mastering for various delivery formats, audio restoration, creation of custom IRs with Altiverb 7, and other relevant audio software/hardware will also be explored. A basic understanding of synchronizing sound design elements and music for film and video will be learned. As well, students will learn the SSL AWS 900+ console and using it as a control interface for ProTools for "in the box" mixing and as an analogue console for "out of the box" mixing.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to use of the hardware and software available in the GPRC studios at a high level of competency; allowing them to make professional quality recordings, demos and masters for various delivery formats. Students will be able to sync sound design elements and music to film and video.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for specific course transfer information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page http://www.transferalberta.ca or use the direct course search at http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinesearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2

Students have the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of courses taken at Alberta Colleges and Universities.

EVALUATIONS:

Students will be graded on the following projects:

1) A 1500 word essay about some aspect of recording technology, theory or process that interests the student. (15%)

2) A multi-track recording synced to video with elements of music, dialogue and effects. (20%)

3) A multi-track recording, which is mixed completely "out of the box" on the SSL console. (20%)

4) Final Project - A significant multi-track studio recording that is recorded and mastered to a professional level. (30%)

5) An exam based on topics and concepts covered in class. (15%)

This work will be graded on technical complexity, mixing, sound processing, and aesthetic impact.

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:

Project 1: January 29th
Project 2: February 12th
Project 3: March 11th
Project 4: April 8th

Timeline

January 8 – Course Introduction – Research and Career Development
January 15 – Research and Career Development – Advanced ProTools
January 22 – Advanced ProTools - Sound and Moving Image
January 29 – Sound and Moving Image
February 5 – SSL AWS 900+ Console
February 12 – SSL AWS 900+ Console
February 19 – Winter Break
February 26 – Outboard effects processors
March 4 – Mid-term, SSL AWS 900+ Automation
March 11 – Audio Restoration Techniques using Waves, Izotope RX and Adobe Audition
March 18 – Audio Restoration Techniques using Waves, Izotope RX and Adobe Audition
March 25 – Advance Mastering Techniques using Waves and Izotope Mastering Products
April 1 – Advance Mastering Techniques using Waves and Izotope Mastering Products
April 8 – Course Wrap up

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Booking studio time, and musicians for recording sessions is up to the responsibility of the student. Some class time will be given for course work (projects) but it is up to the student to complete projects in the studio outside of class time.

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.