MUS 110 SYLLABUS

Introduction to Music Technology
(1 credit)

Sections 001 & 002
Fall, 2011

Reserved Computer Classroom Times:

MW 11 - 11:50 AM (001) and 3 - 3:50 PM (002)

Contact	Text and Materials	Course Description	Learning Goals and Objective
Course Requirements and Rules	Syllabus Quiz	Assignments and Late Work Policy	Attendance Policy
Blackboard Features	Grading Scale	Course Schedule	University-Wide Policies

Contact:

Instructor	Daniel C. Johnson, Ph.D.
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Text and Materials:

- Required: A set of headphones with an eighth-inch stereo adapter is required for use in class. (There are recommended headphones available for purchase at the UNCW Bookstore if you don't already own a pair).
- Required: Readings and exercises provided by the instructor will be assigned from *Experiencing Music Technology* (Williams & Webster, 2009), *The Digital Musician* (Hugill, 2008), *Computers in Music Education: Amplifying Musicality* (Brown, 2007), and *The Finale Reader* (Make Music, 2009). The instructor will provide details about accessing these additional materials, available online or on reserve in Randall Library. **It is your responsibility to do the readings before each class – this will help you better understand the course content and participate in class discussion.**
- Recommended: Some form of recordable media such as a jump or thumb drive, CDR or CDRWs is recommended. These supplies are available in the UNCW Bookstore and many other locations. *Note, you need to format jump or thumb drives for the Macintosh for them to work with the Music Classroom computers*.

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Course Description:

This required course for music majors is intended to provide an introduction to music technology as it relates to music composition, performance, analysis, teaching, and research. Skills and concepts learned in this course will provide a foundation and basic understanding of music technology necessary for application in other courses of the music curriculum (i.e. theory, history, performance, and music education).

This course provides a basic overview of digital audio, computer-generated notation, and MIDI. This course is designed for students with some musical background and knowledge of music theory who wish to enhance their music making through the use of music technology. While this is not a course in composition or performance, students will create some of their own compositions and use their performance skills to gain an understanding of music technology. Assignments, readings, discussions, and projects address a variety of music software. Through these and other means, students will explore the intersection of musical aesthetic with computer-assisted technological. Ultimately, they will investigate how technology enhancements offer musicians ways to create music in more meaningful and musical ways. Beyond music, students will also consider the impact of technology, and reflect on how "computing is not about computers anymore. It is about living." (Nicholas Negroponte, *Being Digital*, 1995)

Learning Goals and Objectives:

This course is designed to meet the following **goals:**
- provide a conceptual overview of music technology.
- give a broad perspective of the many ways technology is used in music applications
- provide basic skills in music technology for use with music software applications, such as music writing, recording, computer-assisted instruction, and MIDI.
- provide basic skills and concepts for using Internet music resources and communicating via the Internet

This course has the following **objectives:**
- To prepare musical manuscripts with various computer applications
- To develop and create MIDI files
- To understand and articulate fundamental issues underlying the use of technology in music
- To perform drill tasks with computer-assisted instruction
- To search the World Wide Web for musical information and materials
- To evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, and best possible uses for music-related computer software

This course has the following **learning goals:**
- Students will determine the most appropriate software and hardware tools to solve proposed problems or tasks.
- Students will access information on music technology from a variety of print, online, and software-specific sources.
- Students will critically evaluate information gained from a variety of sources on music technology.
- Students will incorporate and assimilate information they gain into critical reviews of music technology and software.
- Students will use information gained from a variety of sources to accomplish assigned projects in music technology.

Course Requirements and Rules:

Requirements:

- Co-requisites: MUS 111 & MUSL 111.
- Fundamental music theory skills and knowledge before enrolling in this course. If you have any questions about your music literacy skills, please see the instructor.
- Successful participation in classroom discussions and online activities.
- Successful completion of one syllabus quiz, three tests, and one final project.
- Successful and timely completion of written assignments.
- Regular attendance at class meetings.

Seven Important Rules:

1. **Do NOT allow unauthorized students access to the Computer Classroom.** Because you are registered for this course, you will have key-card access to the classroom using your student ID. You may use the classroom any time the building is open and there is not a class conflict. The schedule for classes in the classroom is posted on the door. Check with the instructor if you would like to use the classroom during one of the times. Only authorized students have this key-card access on their ID. When a class is not in session, the computer classroom door should be shut; it will lock automatically.
2. **Do NOT have open food or drink containers at your station.** Because any food and drink accidentally spilled on the computer, keyboards, or mouse can damage the equipment, keep any food or drink containers closed. Alternatively, you may leave any drink or food at the front table if they do not have lids that seal.
3. **Save your work.** Much frustration and anxiety can be avoided by taking a simple and painless step: save your work regularly. During the course, you can save your work to a CDR, CDRW, or a jump drive formatted for the Macintosh. An alternative is to use Timmy, a file server dedicated to student use. The most important thing, however, is to save yourself time and trouble by saving your work more often than you think is necessary!
4. **Log out when you've finished a session at your computer.** To prevent using the computers under the wrong log-in profile, be sure to log out of your computer after you've saved your work.
5. **Don't expect me to be available 24/7.** Just because this course is enhanced with Web CT features that are available 24/7 doesn't mean that I can be available for all students, all the time (because I am only human). I promise--I will get back with you promptly regarding questions. Just as if you were in a traditional class and sent an email, you have to give me time to respond. Please ask questions if you have them...but give me time to answer them.
6. **Don't panic.** It goes along with all of the others that I've mentioned. Think. Breathe. Relax. Sure, I have rules, but I am fair. If you would like to meet with me, drop by my office or call me during my conventional office hours or make an appointment.
7. **Don't forget to read!** This syllabus is detailed for a reason. Have a question about an assignment? Have you checked the syllabus first? Have you re-read the course packet? Have you checked the course announcements and your email? All of this comes FIRST before you send an email to me.

Syllabus Quiz:

There will be one Syllabus Quiz given to assess students' understanding of this course design. Attendance in the computer classroom during your assigned time is REQUIRED for each assessment. This quiz may be taken only once. The quiz will address policies and procedures outlined in this syllabus. Although anything is "fair game," I will ask questions to allow you to demonstrate your knowledge of the important content. The quiz will be given on the date indicated in the course schedule. *There will be no make-up opportunities for this assessment*.

Assignments and Late Work Policy:

To monitor student progress and facilitate the learning process, you will complete multiple assignments to reinforce the course content. Assignments will be scheduled by the instructor and involve applying skills for music notation as independent projects. See the course schedule for specific dates scheduled for each module.

Students will receive **full credit** for complete, correct assignments submitted on time. (At my discretion, I may excuse minor errors and award full credit.) Students will receive **partial credit** awarded on a sliding scale for incomplete assignments containing substantial errors submitted on time. Students will receive **no credit** for missing assignments. Additional time in the computer classroom is available as posted on the classroom door. You can gain access to the classroom during these times by swiping your ID card in the card reader posted outside the classroom door.

For full credit, students must turn in assignments and any other materials at the time that they are due. In the event that you do not turn in a posting by the due date and time, it will be given half credit (50%) if you submit it during the next 24 hours after it was due. Postings submitted more than 24 hours late will not be graded. *After 24 hours, the assignment will neither be accepted nor graded*.

Blackboard Learn Orientation is a required course delivered via Skillport; you can access this course via the Student Tab in SeaPort. It is a computer-based training course (CBT) that introduces the fundamentals of Blackboard. Prior to taking the Syllabus Test, you need to have completed this CBT and submitted your printed certificate from this orientation (by taking the Blackboard Orientation test). This is a prerequisite to accessing the Syllabus Test.

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Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required for classroom discussions and assessments scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays. Reserved classroom times are Mondays and Wednesdays (section 001 from 11 - 11:50 AM and section 002 from 3 - 3:50). When you have any questions about the course, simply email or phone your instructor (962-7559) for an appointment during office hours or at an alternative time. In addition, your instructor will be available on most Mondays and Wednesdays in the computer classroom. See the course schedule for specific dates scheduled for each module.

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BlackBoard Features:

There are course enhancements for MUS 110, making it a hybrid online course, delivered through BlackBoard Learn. This form on e-learning allows students some freedom but demands more responsibility for their own learning than traditional face-to-face courses. Access the BlackBoard Learn site using the Blackboard server. The following components or tools in BlackBoard are important for this course:

- Syllabus—an online version of this syllabus with links to content and Web CT tools
- Module Guides—information and helpful tips about computer application and assignments
- My Grades—lists your current grade averages
- Assessments—online quiz and tests
- Online Resources—a listing of additional online resources

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Grading Scale:

Calculation of the final course grade is as follows:

- Assignments: 35%
- Attendance: 15%
- Module Projects (3): 45% (15% each)
- Syllabus Quiz: 5%

For the final course grade, a ten-point grading scale will be used as follows:

92-90=**A-**	100-93=**A**	
82-80=**B-**	86-83=**B**	89-87=**B+**
72-70=**C-**	76-73=**C**	79-77=**C+**
62-60=**D-**	66-63=**D**	69-67=**D+**
	59-below=**F**	

Course Schedule (tentative):

The flow of this course is based on the learning goals, course objectives, and the tentative calendar (below). The focus for each week addresses one or more course goals utilizing different computer-based applications. In general, Mondays are work days and Wednesdays are discussion and review days. There are assignments scheduled during the semester as listed below. The assignments are listed as a number followed by a letter; for example, 1A, 1B, 1C, etc. All assignments are explained in class or online and due on the dates indicated below by 11 PM.

The course content is organized in three modules:

Module I: Non-Traditional Notation via Digital Audio
Software: Audacity, Garage Band, & Logic Express
Module II: Traditional Notation via Computer Software
Software: Finale, Finale Notepad, & NoteFlight
Module III: Displaying and Hearing Traditional Notation
Software: Finale (cont.), MIDI, & Microsoft Office graphics

Week of:	Module:	Monday Topic:	Wednesday Topic:
8/24		Beginning of Semester	Introduction and Syllabus
8/29	Module I	Video presentation: Defining Music Technology	OS and Internet skills, Introducing Module I software
9/5		Labor Day	Syllabus Quiz Exploring Module I software
9/12		Assignment 1A Due BlackBoard Oriendtation Due	Exploring Module I software (cont.)
9/19		Assignment 1B Due	Using Module I software and online resources
9/26		Assignment 1C Due	Using Module I software (cont.)
10/3		Assignment 1D Due	Module I Project Due
10/10	Module II	Fall Break	Introducing Module II software
10/17		Assignment 2A Due	Exploring Module II software
10/24		Assignment 2B Due	Using Module II software (cont.)
10/31		Assignment 2C Due	Using Module II software (cont.)

11/7		Assignment 2D Due	Module II Project Due
11/14	Module III	Assignment 3A Due	Introducing Module III software
11/21		Assignment 3B Due	Exploring Module III software
11/28		Assignment 3C Due	Thanksgiving Break
12/5		Review	Module III Project Due

Assignment and Assessment Schedule

For each module, there are three or more assignments (1A, 1B, 1C, 1 D, etc.) In addition, there are other assignments as listed above and announced in class. **All assignments are due on the dates indicated by 11 PM.** Each assignment will be explained by the instructor in class and/or in written directions. There is only one assessment for this course. That is the Syllabus Quiz, given as scheduled toward the beginning of the semester.

Please turn off all cell phones and pager devices during all reserved computer classroom sessions.

University-Wide Policies

Religious Observance Policy
> In accordance with NC SL 2010-211, you are entitled to **two excused absences for religious observances per academic year**. You must inform your instructor in writing the first week of class if you will be missing any classes due to religious observance and using one of the two permissible absences for the academic year. In addition, please inform the Registrar the first week of class who will then confirm your intentions to miss class with the impacted course instructors. Any absence for religious purposes will be considered unexcused unless you submit the request in writing the first week to either your instructor and the Registrar.

Zero Tolerance Policy
> UNCW practices a zero tolerance policy for violence and harassment of any kind. For emergencies contact UNCW CARE at 962-2273; Campus Police at 962-3184; or Wilmington Police at 911. For University or community resources visit: http://www.uncw.edu/safe-relate/campusResources.htm. Violence prevention information and resources available at http://www.uncw.edu/safe%2Drelate/. We will focus several class discussions on the importance of reducing violence and increasing tolerance in schools and at UNCW.

Cell Phones, PDAs, Laptops
> Please silence your cell phone and do not make calls, access applications or text during class. If you have a personal, urgent matter for which you need to be on call, please let your instructor know in advance. In addition, please do not have active any PDAs or laptops/netbooks/iPads open and active unless the activity warrants. We will use these devices in selected activities and they are permissible then.

The UNCW Statement on Diversity in the University Community
> As an institution of higher learning, the University of North Carolina Wilmington represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students and is committed to maintaining a campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the university supports policies, curricula, and co-curricular activities that encourage understanding of and appreciation for all members of its community and will not tolerate any harassment or disrespect for persons because of race, gender, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or relationship to other university constituents. Students with Disabilities information and resources available at http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/disability/

The above syllabus for this course is subject to change by the instructor. In the event of any alteration, written changes to the syllabus will be provided at least 2 days (48 hours) before they take effect.