



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
MUSI 255 – Introduction to Music Technology
Winter 2020 (Revised March 19, 2020)

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Adam Patrick Bell Craigie Hall F220 adam.bell@ucalgary.ca By appointment via video conference
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	This course is now running asynchronously online.
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	Computer; internet
Prerequisites	none
Course description	An exploration of current technology for music making and appreciation including recording hardware and software, MIDI-based devices for integration with sound systems and interactive/media performance, audio file formats, score preparations and basic audition theory.
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Possess an understanding of the history of the evolution and development of sound and music technology. 2. Understand the technical and theoretical foundations of sound and of a variety of technologies employed in music creation and performance. 3. Understand the role of technology in sound and music creation and performance as well as the importance of technological skills for communications and documentation activities important to a career in sound and music. 4. Understand the roles and uses of a variety of technologies for current music pedagogy. 5. Employ a variety of hardware and software technologies to create and perform music and sound art.
Course schedule	Note that the sequence of topics may be rearranged by the instructor (with the exception of final projects) Week 1 – 2 Introduction (Technology, Sound) Week 3 – 4 Capturing and Making Sound Week 5 – 6 New Instruments – Electronic Instruments Week 7 – 8 Composition and Notation Week 9 – 10 Network and Mobile Music and Communications Week 11 – 12 DIY and New Practices Week 13 Final Projects
Assessment components	Projects Value: 60 points (approx. 69%) Type: posted online. Due Date: The Song Machine is completed; Instrument Invention is TBD. Description: 1. The Song Machine (3 stages): 30 points (34.5%)

	<p>This project can be done individually or as a group (maximum group size: 3). It has three distinct stages, with each stage having its own assessment component (typically each stage is worth 10%, but the distribution is somewhat flexible; however, no stage can be worth less than 5%). The purpose of the project is to develop students' proficiency with a digital audio workstation (DAW), especially the ability to create and edit MIDI and audio tracks. By the completion of the project, students will have completed a song or piece of music approximately 3 minutes in length (no less than 2 minutes, no more than 5 minutes). Self- and peer-assessment are a key component of the project.</p> <p>2. Instrument Invention (3 stages): 30 points (34.5%)</p> <p>This project can be done individually or as a group (maximum group size: 3). It entails several steps, but the main components are idea generation, prototyping, and testing. Each stage has its own assessment component, including self- and peer-assessment. The purpose of the project is to develop students' design and programming skills. By the completion of the project, students will have designed and made an electronic music instrument using a MaKey MaKey prototyping device paired with software of their choice (different possibilities will be introduced in class).</p> <p>Independent Project Value: 20 points (approx. 23%) Type: posted online. Due Date: TBD Description:</p> <p>Students will propose an independent project idea to the instructor following reading week for approval. Once approved, students will work on their independent projects and present the outcomes to their peers. The assessment criteria will depend on the nature of each project; however, all independent projects are peer-reviewed qualitatively with the aim of providing constructive feedback.</p> <p>Midterm Quiz Value: 7.5 points (approx. 8%) Type: written in class Date: Completed</p> <p>Midterm quiz will assess students' knowledge of key concepts covered in the course.</p>
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u> Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p>
Grading scale	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Undergraduate Calendar for 2019-2020 OR as outlined in the section H.1 Distribution of Grades of the Graduate Calendar for 2019-2020:</p>

	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
	A	4.00	Excellent performance
	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
	B	3.00	Good performance
	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
	*D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
	*D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
	F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
	**I	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.
	CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable
	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations. • The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy. <p>A+ = 100-98%; A = 97-94%; A- = 93-90%; B+ = 89-86%; B = 85-80%; B- = 79-76%; C+ = 75-70%; C = 69-66%; C - = 65-60; D+ = 59-56%; D = 55-51%; F = 50.99% or lower</p> <p>Late assignments: - 25% up to 1 week late; zero thereafter.</p>		
Student Support	Please visit this link for a concise list of UCalgary's student support services: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines		
Academic Accommodation	Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/ . Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf .		
Academic integrity, plagiarism	The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are referred to the section on plagiarism in the University Calendar (ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html); ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html) and are reminded that plagiarism—using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it—is an extremely serious academic offence. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the		

	<p>university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Student Success Centre (TFDL 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d2l/ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/emergency-instructions/uc-emergency-app</p> <p>The in-class use of computers may be approved by your Instructor. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices should be silenced or turned off upon entering the classroom. If you violate the Instructor's policy regarding the use of electronic communication devices in the classroom, you may be asked to leave the classroom; repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct. No audio or video recording of any kind is allowed in class without explicit permission of the Instructor.</p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>
Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>



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Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Craigie Hall F-202 Mondays and Wednesdays 11:00 – 11:50 IAML Fridays 11:00-11:50
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	Field recording; lab use for projects
Prerequisites	none
Course description	An exploration of current technology for music making and appreciation including recording hardware and software, MIDI-based devices for integration with sound systems and interactive/media performance, audio file formats, score preparations and basic audition theory.
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Assessment components	Projects Value: 65% Type: posted online. Due Date: TBD Description: 1. The Song Machine (3 stages): 30%

	<p>This project can be done individually or as a group (maximum group size: 3). It has three distinct stages, with each stage having its own assessment component (typically each stage is worth 10%, but the distribution is somewhat flexible; however, no stage can be worth less than 5%). The purpose of the project is to develop students' proficiency with a digital audio workstation (DAW), especially the ability to create and edit MIDI and audio tracks. By the completion of the project, students will have completed a song or piece of music approximately 3 minutes in length (no less than 2 minutes, no more than 5 minutes). Self- and peer-assessment are a key component of the project.</p> <p>2. Instrument Invention (3 stages): 30%</p> <p>This project can be done individually or as a group (maximum group size: 3). It entails several steps, but the main components are idea generation, prototyping, and testing. Each stage has its own assessment component, including self- and peer-assessment. The purpose of the project is to develop students' design and programming skills. By the completion of the project, students will have designed and made an electronic music instrument using a MaKey MaKey prototyping device paired with software of their choice (different possibilities will be introduced in class).</p> <p>3. Live Performance: 5%</p> <p>Typically held during the last week of classes, students will perform live in class a piece of electronic music using "music technology"—broadly defined.</p> <p>Independent Project Value: 20% Type: posted online. Due Date: TBD Description:</p> <p>Students will propose an independent project idea to the instructor following reading week for approval. Once approved, students will work on their independent projects and present the outcomes to their peers in the second-last week of classes. The assessment criteria will depend on the nature of each project, however, all independent projects are peer-reviewed qualitatively with the aim of providing constructive feedback.</p> <p>Quizzes Value: 2 x 7.5% (15% total) Type: written in class Date: TBD</p> <p>Midterm and final quizzes will assess students' knowledge of key concepts covered in the course.</p>
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u> Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation</p>

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Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students’ assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>