

Module Specification

Module Title: Studio Recording Project for Electronic Music Producers

Module code:	TBC	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	10 credits	Semester of study:	2
Module type:	Optional	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	FdA Electronic Music Production		

Module overview

In this module students will be introduced to the recording studio environment, and the associated tools and techniques required to practice recording and production. Students will also develop skills in teamwork and planning. The content will include: analogue mixing desk topology, operation and signal flow, cue mix, talkback, monitoring, auxiliary and insert signal processing, studio recording software (DAW) and hard disk recording, microphone theory and application of techniques applied to a variety of sound sources, application of mixing - balance, stereo and panning, equalisation and effects processing, fundamentals of acoustics, resource and people management and record keeping.

The areas of study will be contextualised for electronic music students and their application sympathetic to the genres they are working in. For example, students may wish to concentrate on refining vocal performances. Students working instrumentally may wish to develop complex rhythmic percussion and textures. Whatever the case students will be introduced to technologies and techniques that will facilitate their creative project.

Areas of study include:

- Signal routing and patchbay;
- Mixing desk architecture;
- Microphone placement;
- Microphone types;
- Recording studio etiquette;
- Multitrack recording;
- Mixing;
- The soundstage.

Aims

This 10-credit module can be chosen by electronic music students to enhance their production skills by immersing themselves in a module that compliments skills gained in their core computer music and electronic music composition modules. It allows electronic production students to acquire an understanding of the similarities and differences of approaches to studio recording by allowing them to consider and use their transferable skills to engage with a studio recording project using specific soft/hardware in order to create a portfolio of recordings. The module will equip students with a range of studio production techniques using industry standard equipment found within a recording studio environment. Students will be engaged in a series of activities that simulate real world audio recording and production scenarios.

The module aims to:

1. Explore analogue and digital recording studio technology;
2. Explore fundamental recording techniques;
3. Apply appropriate project management skills needed to run recording sessions.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Apply practical and theoretical knowledge of an integrated recording studio environment.
2. Apply practical and theoretical knowledge of microphone, recording/mixing techniques and transferable production techniques.
3. Apply a practical understanding of project management and communication skills.
4. Evidence contributions to group work through assignment specific contribution targets.

Learning and teaching methods

This module is delivered via tutor led workshops in the recording studio environment, where students will work in small production groups in order to develop a basic practical and theoretical knowledge of standard recording techniques, procedures and equipment. The teaching and assessment of the module will simulate, where appropriate, a working studio environment ensuring students gain not only the technical skills necessary in the studio environment but understand how to apply them in a vocational context.

Contact hours and directed study

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	15 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	85 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	100 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Regular formative assessment through workshops.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework – Production Portfolio	8 minutes plus online quiz	100%	1, 2, 3, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Coursework – Production Portfolio	8 minutes plus online quiz	100%	1, 2, 3, 4

Indicative Reading List

Essential:

- Borwick, J. (ed.) (1996) Sound Recording Practice, 4th ed. Oxford, OUP.
- Cleland, D. (2001) A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge 2000, The Project Management Institute.
- Eargle, J. (2001) The Microphone Book, Focal Press.
- Hepworth-Sawyer, R. & Golding C. (2010) What is Music Production? A producers guide, the role, the people, the process. Focal Press.

Background:

e-resources

- <http://www.soundonsound.com>
Pro audio, recording & production
- <http://www.musictech.net>
Music technology resources and news

- <http://tapeop.com>
Sound engineering resources and news
- <http://www.recordingmag.com>
eMagazine for recording musicians
- <https://www.resolutionmag.com>
Audio for broadcasting
- <https://www.puremix.net>Mixing
Audio Mixing Website
- <http://prosoundweb.com>
Pro Sound Web
- <http://www.audiomediainternational.com>
Technology and Trends for the Pro-Audio Professional
- <https://www.gearslutz.com/board>
Pro audio community website
- <https://production-room.com>
Pro audio retailer
- <https://www.thomann.de/gb/index.html>
Pro audio retailer
- <http://vintageking.com>
Pro audio retailer
- <http://vintagemaker.net>
Boutique Vintage Audio Equipment