Basic MIDI Sequencing, MUS 271 Syllabus

General Information

Instructor

Tim Heldt

Contact Information and Availability

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Course Information

Basic MIDI Sequencing MUS 271
Tuesdays 4:30 – 5:30 Thursdays 4:30 – 6:30 room 133 Music Building
This course develops introductory skills in MIDI sequencing. The objective of this course is to familiarize the student with the fundamentals and applications of MIDI technology, including sequencing software, MIDI interfaces, virtual instruments, as well as some applications unrelated to music.

Student Learning Outcomes

To develop MIDI sequencing skills to record and mix MIDI musical projects. To improve MIDI keyboard skills. To develop an understanding on the technical aspects of MIDI sequencing and software synthesizer use. To use musical skills to improve MIDI sequencing projects.

Required Materials


Section Policies

MUS 271 Lab
The co-requisite MUS 271 Lab will be hands on sequencing and mixing using Pro Tools. Several lab projects will be assigned during the semester with posted due dates. Most of the projects will be completed during class time, but students can also work on their projects whenever the lab is open. Available lab hours will be posted.

Attendance
Attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken and recorded at all classes. You are expected to attend all classes and be punctual. There is no distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. If you must be absent from class, call (234-3424 or call Kathy in the music office, 234 3940)
within twenty-four hours, either before or after, and explain the reason for your absence. A good attendance record is crucial for passing this class. After 3 absences, the instructor has the option of deducting attendance points from your final score. Leaving class early without permission will have the same penalty as a tardy arrival. If you are caught up with your projects you may leave early from class with permission from the instructor.

**Tardiness**
All lectures and labs will start on time as scheduled. Late arrivals disrupt the class and will negatively affect your grade. Arriving more than ten minutes late is considered to be a late arrival. Arriving twenty minutes or later into the respective class or lab session will be considered as an absence.

**Grading Policies**
There is a total of 1,000 points possible in this course. They may be earned as follows:

* 3 unit quizzes– 100 points each
* 2 scored sequencing projects 100 points each.
* Final written exam 200 points
* Final Project 150 points
* General class work/lab work 100 points
* Good attendance 50 points
* Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated

**Final Written Exam and Final Performance Evaluation**
Each student will be required to attend the final exam and final lab performance assessment in person in one of GRCC’s recording labs. The final exam/final performance review time will be during the last week of the semester or can be arranged with your instructor according to your schedule. The requirements of the final performance evaluation will be made available several weeks from the end of the course.

**QUIZZES**
There will be three quizzes given during the semester. These will be given during or upon the completion of each unit as listed in the course outline. A missed test will be graded as 0%. It is the student’s responsibility to inquire about and or request make-up tests.

**Late Assignments**
This course moves at a fairly brisk pace – it is important the students stay current with studying and lab work. If you do not finish an assignment on time **TELL THE INSTRUCTOR**. In this case late assignments will be accepted, but will be graded lower depending on how late the assignment is, at the discretion of the instructor.
OFFICE HOURS
Office hours will be posted after the fall schedule has been planned. If you are confused in any way about the material covered in class or lab, you are encouraged to set up time with the instructor for help either in person, by phone or email. If posted office hours do not align with your schedule, please contact your instructor.

College Policies
The academic policies and procedures of GRCC are outlined in the College Catalog. College-wide policies and procedures, to include (but not limited to) grading, Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Student Right to Know, Privacy, Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity, Americans with Disability Act (ADA), concealed weapons, smoking, campus crime, copyright, academic grievances and discipline grievances, are at http://www.grcc.edu/catalog. Additional policies, to include (but not limited to) academic integrity, disability support services, posting/distributing literature, selling merchandise, fundraising, classroom disruption, conduct and substance abuse, can be found in the GRCC Student Handbook at http://www.grcc.edu/handbook. These policies and procedures are subject to change and incorporated by reference.

GRCC E_MAIL
E-mail should only be used for issues that are not appropriate for the whole class (e.g. questions about your grade, constructive criticism or personal issues). When you e-mail your instructor, please include a proper reference in the "subject" field, any message you are responding to, and your name. Your professor will respond to your e-mail within 24 hours. If you don't get a response in timeframe, there is probably a technical problem. Ensure that you regularly check the e-mail account listed for you in Blackboard.

Tutor
If you are interested in getting help from a tutor, please ask your instructor. Tutors for this course are only available on campus.

Disability Support Services
Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations must be registered with the Disability Support Services Office (DSS) in Room 368 of the Student Center. You may contact DSS at (616) 234-4140 for more information. Once you are registered with the DSS Office, you will receive an Accommodations Agreement to present to me to verify your registration. Please see me as soon as possible so we may have a private conversation to discuss accommodations.

Student Code of Conduct
All GRCC students are held accountable to the Student Code of Conduct, which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct. The Code can be found in full at Student Code of Conduct.
Changes to the Syllabus
The instructor reserves the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. Students will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Blackboard Announcement, or through GRCC e-mail.