



LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE

Music Technology for Educators

Summer 2009

Instructor: Jeff Snyder

Office: 112 Blair Ph. 717 867-6277 snyder@lvc.edu

Dates : *June 29 to July 11 (no class 7/3) make up class Saturday 7/11*

Class Time: daily 9-12 AM 1-2 PM (15 minute break at 10:30)

Classroom: Blair 219 Piano - MIDI Lab (aka Presser-Gillespie Technology Center)

This syllabus is a general description about the purpose and goals of the class. You should read it through to understand the parameters and requirements expected of you. Please ask the instructor about any portion of this syllabus that you do not understand. The instructor retains the right to modify this syllabus at anytime. If this takes place, students will be informed before the modifications are implemented.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an exploration of the principles and applications of music technology in today's academia. Topics discussed include: digital audio, notation, sequencing, MIDI, pedagogic theory and application, copyright law, computer-assisted instruction, the Internet, and other music based technologies or applications. The class will consist of lectures, demonstrations, labs, discussion, and student presentations. Each student will have access to a MIDI workstation for hands-on exploration.

This course is a graduate level course. Discourse between students will be greatly encouraged. This course is not meant to be a lecture-centered experience. Views, opinions, experiences, and questions based on the reading, research, lab, or any other related cognate is expected from each student. The free-flow of ideas and thought is paramount to getting the most out of this course. The optimum role of the instructor is to challenge and encourage students to contribute in such ways to the goals of the course.

This condensed, two-week course is the equivalent of one complete semester of course instruction consisting of 40 contact hours. It meets the requirements of attaining a Master's Degree in Music Education in compliance with the curriculum of the Graduate Program offered at Lebanon Valley College.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Have a basic understanding of MIDI, copyright, Web, sound system and digital audio applications.
- Be able to set up and use MIDI workstations that consist of computer and MIDI hardware.
- Have identified current and future trends in academic music technologies.
- Have evaluated music technology products and their implementation into the classroom.
- Have identified opportunities to apply music technologies in the classroom.
- Have created various projects that reflect the different uses of music technologies in pedagogic settings.

SOFTWARE:

The major software covered will be ProTools and NotePad, as well as various other music programs. These programs will be accessible on the computers located at each MIDI workstation.

Students wishing to purchase these programs may do so at academic prices from various sources. Some of the programs can be downloaded for free from the Internet.

Time will be dedicated to 'lab' use. Using the time to become familiar with the software is encouraged since the instructor is available for questions, instruction, etc. If a student has the facility to use personal software outside of the lab, that student is responsible for the *compatibility* of files and presentation.

TEXT:

There is no required textbook for this course.

Note-taking is highly encouraged.

STORAGE MEDIA:

Students that wish to back up computer data created in or for the class can use CD-R discs. These can be readily found in the electronics section of most any department, electronic, or office supply stores.

New portable USB 'thumb drives' are highly recommended for media storage and transfer.

It is up to each student to back up data. *Failure to present or turn in a project because of lost data or incompatibility will result in a failing grade for that project.* Lost data due to crashes, dogs, hurricanes, meteors, or nuclear holocaust will not suffice as excuses for not meeting deadlines.

Students wishing to create audio CDs must purchase CD-Rs (CD-RWs will not work).

SAVE OFTEN. BACK UP DATA. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

Each student will be cognizant of hard drive space for each computer. The instructor reserves the right to erase any material on a hard drive that has not been pre-approved for storage.

COMPUTERS:

All software for assignments can be found on the Macs in the piano lab (room 218). The use of the lab, computers, and hardware is a privilege, not a right. This privilege can be revoked.

There are sixteen computers loaded with the proper software. Blaming the computers for: incomplete work, not meeting project requirements, lost data, missing deadlines, etc. will not be tolerated.

- The lab **MUST** be monitored at all times, and doors **MUST BE LOCKED** whenever it is vacated **FOR ANY REASON**. Using the computers for personal use, stealing software, or purposely messing with the operating systems will result in loss of points and privileges.
- Never install or remove software from a computer without prior approval from the instructor.
- Each student will be held responsible for any destruction, alteration, or theft of school property. Grades, and or graduation will be suspended until legal or financial restitution is made.
- Do **NOT** move or reconnect school property without prior permission. If permission is granted, you are required to put the property back in the condition that it was found.
- Please keep the lab in neat and clean condition.
- Turn off all equipment and put away headphones, etc. when you are finished.

INTERNET:

The syllabus and other material associated with this course may be found at <http://lostsurfer.net/lostsurfer.net/MME803.html>

TIME

- The final hour of the class (1-2 PM) will usually be dedicated to lab time.
- The class may decide to allow a 30-minute lunch break instead of an hour, resulting in the class ending at 1:30.
- A 15-minute break will be allowed at 10:30.
- Students must anticipate time and computer demands and start projects as soon as possible.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Class participation is required (*a missed day equals 4 normal class hours...over a week*).
- Contribution to discussions will be figured into the final grade.
- This is a project-intensive course. Self-initiative in learning new software programs and content creation is imperative.
- Deadlines will be firmly enforced.
- Reading assignments must be met in order to contribute to class discussions.
- Failure to meet deadlines will result in a 0 grade for the assignments.
- Late assignments will not be accepted unless previous permission by instructor is granted.
- Civil behavior is expected from all students.
- Drunkenness or other 'altered-state' will result in expulsion from the class.

GRADING:

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

- Written exam = 200 points
- Final project = 400 points

Standards for Evaluation Number-to-Letter Conversion:

0-59 F, 60-62 D-, 63-66 D, 67-69 D+, 70-72 C-, 73-76 C, 77-79 C+, 80-82 B-, 83-86 B, 87-89 B+, 90-92 A-, 93-100 A

A = superior, B = above average, C = average, D = below average, F = failing

The instructor retains the privilege of changing the number of exams and point values. The values, if changed, will be stated before any exams or projects.

The final grade will be calculated by taking the total possible points of all assignments and tests and comparing them to the total points earned.

TESTING:

- There will be one major test for this course.
- A work-sheet will be provided prior to the exam.
- Test material will come from reading and class discussions. Take Notes!

PROJECT:

Learning about music technology, tools, and software is up to the self-initiative of each student. Completing the *minimum* requirements for projects will result in average grades.

FINAL PROJECT:

- The final project / paper will be a capstone project to be presented to the class on the last day of the course.
- The parameters of the final presentation / project will be custom-designed to the needs of each student.
- A proposal of the final project must be submitted for approval before beginning the project.
- Final projects must be pre-approved by the instructor.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS:

- Projects will not be accepted after given deadlines and a 0 will be given as a grade.
- It is up to each student to determine *before* a class presentation of a project, whether the project will play back and be displayed properly. If a project is created on a home computer, it is up to the student to make sure that the resulting work is presentable to the class. Incompatibility is not a valid reason for not meeting the requirements of assignments.
- Failure to *meet all requirements and expectations* of the assignment will result in a diminished grade for the project.
- Access to the lab after regular class hours may be worked out with the instructor.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will not be monitored for this class, though absentness will be obvious. Remember that one day equals *four hours* of class, four classes.

- You are responsible for all material discussed in class.
- You are responsible for all assignments given in class.
- There will be no make-up presentations.
- There will be no make-up exams.
- Consistent attendance may be a factor in borderline grades.

Do not ask the instructor to show software, discuss assignments, or review material missed because of skipping a class - except for the following reasons:

- Verified illness.
- Family emergency.
- Inclement weather (classes canceled).

Tardiness:

- Please be on time.

It is the responsibility of the student to read and understand this syllabus. If a student does not understand any portion of this syllabus, the instructor will be glad to answer any questions. If a student does not ask questions, the instructor will assume that the student understands and agrees to the requirements as stated. If a student does not agree to the class parameters as set forth in the syllabus, the student must withdraw from the class the first week of the semester.

Anticipated Schedule of Covered Subjects

This schedule is an approximate schedule. Stated order of class subjects and discussions are subject to change without notice (except for test/presentation).

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
June 29 Introductions. Survey. Class description. Mac intro. Beginning MIDI theory.	June 30 Guest Speaker: Doug Gould (formerly with Shure) Topics: Mics, sound systems, etc.	July 1 Binary. MIDI cont. GM SMF	July 2 Digital Audio. Recording and editing. Making CDs Connections	July 3 NO CLASS	July 4 Independence Day	July 5
July 6 Notation. Webpages, Internet, Webquests	July 7 Vids Incorporating other technologies.	July 8 Copyright. Music labs. Strategies.	July 9 Place of technology in music pedagogy. Wrap-up	July 10 Exam. Lab.	July 11 Final Presentation Hosses for lunch.	12

MME803 Final Project

Goal:

The purpose of the final project for the Music Technology for Educators class is for each individual to concentrate on a specific subject that will result in a capstone experience that can be incorporated into his or her pedagogy.

Components:

- Proposal
- Class presentation
- Paper

Proposal (abstract):

A one-page brief (double-spaced) of the proposed project is due to the instructor for approval by the lunch break of Tuesday, July 7. The instructor must provide approval of the proposal for the project to be accepted. The instructor may wish to discuss the proposal as well as make recommendations.

2 parts:

1. Begin with Goals and objectives statement.
2. State what it is you want to create and how it would be incorporated into your teaching.

GOALS:

Goals are statements of direction. They are guidelines for choosing tasks. In order to know if your ship is on the right course, you need to know the destination. How you get there may be the series of objectives you identify, but the purpose of the journey is expressed through the goals. A goal statement is a concise one-sentence statement of the outcome of the project.

OBJECTIVES:

Objectives are *measurable* tasks that are developed to achieve the goal.

Objectives may have a quality and/or quantity dimension that may be part of the way in which achievement will be measured.

Objectives fall under the Goal statement (use bullets). Objective statements state the hoped for results of attaining the goal. Be precise and succinct.

Parameters:

- Double space.
- Separate cover page and bibliography is required.
- Grammar and spelling will be counted in the grade.
- Include page numbers.
- 1" margins on all sides.
- Times Font
- Font size = 12 (including cover and bibliography)
- Charts, graphics, scores, should be included in an appendix.
- Indent paragraphs.
- Cites from the Internet should be stated in the bibliography. Printouts of the pages cited must be included in the appendix.

Ideas for projects:

- Find a use for the Web or Internet.
- Prepare a lesson plan that you will use that involves technology.
- Design a MIDI lab.
- Do research on the current use of music technology in academia, specifically in your grade-range.
- Find a piece of software and give an in-depth review and evaluation of it.
- Create a practice audio CD.

- Etc.

Papers:

A paper will accompany each project.

The paper should, regardless of the project, provide an introspective evaluation of your relationship with technology, and its place in your pedagogical methodologies. This will be part of the conclusion portion of your paper.

The paper will consist of three main sections:

1. Detailed description of your project (including why you chose it and how you hope to incorporate it into your classroom).
2. Methodology of creating the project.
3. Your conclusion about technology.

Presentation:

- Presentations of the projects will be made Saturday the 11th.
- Please enquire with the instructor about any special needs of the presentation by the 10th.
- Presentations should be concise and precise.
- Presentations should last no longer than 20 minutes so that each student will have time to present.
- The members of the masters class will serve as a beta-test class for you to 'teach' to using your project (you all will pretend to be typical public school students). The presenter will use the 'project' in a practical and efficient way. There will be class feedback and suggestions about the effectiveness of the project.
- It is possible that the presentations may go past the normal time for the end of class, so please be prepared to stay a little longer than usual.