

Introduction to Electroacoustic Music (MUC 4313 & 5315)

University of Florida Fall 2024

Dr. Scott Lee - scott.lee@ufl.edu

Office: MUB 339

M/W/F 9:35-10:25 AM, MUB 147

Office Hours: TBD

How to get in touch with me:

For short questions: E-mail me. As a general rule, I answer e-mails between 9:00-5:00, and I try to answer emails within 24 hours of receipt, except on weekends.

For everything else: Come to office hours or make an appointment. Office hours are a chance for you to get help on assignments, go over material covered in class, and talk about connections between class material and other ideas. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this time.

Course Description and Goals:

A survey of the history, repertoire, technologies, and compositional techniques of electroacoustic music, including an introduction to acoustics and the application of techniques to the creation of new electroacoustic works using a digital audio workstation.

Course Goals:

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the development of electroacoustic music over the past century, including significant composers, works, technologies, techniques, and acoustics, through class discussion and written assignments. Students will develop critical listening skills through the aural analysis of electroacoustic repertoire. Finally, students will integrate compositional approaches and digital signal processing techniques through the creation of electroacoustic works using a digital audio workstation.

Required Course Textbooks

Holmes, Thom. *Electronic and Experimental Music* (6th edition)

Backus, John. *The Acoustical Foundations of Music* (2nd edition)

Optional Course Textbooks:

Cox and Warner, *Audio Culture: Readings in Modern Music*

Other Course Materials

Access to a digital audio workstation (We will be using Logic Pro, which is available on all computers in the lab)

Headphones

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes. Each unexcused absence over three will result in a one-point deduction from your final grade. Any student with eight or more unexcused absences will fail the course. An excused absence is an approved UF event, a family emergency, or an illness. Students knowing in advance that they will miss a class must contact me **beforehand via email**. Otherwise students should contact me via e-mail to explain an absence within two days of the missed class if they wish for it to be excused. Please do not schedule non-urgent doctor's

appointments during class time. In the case of an absence (excused or unexcused), that student is responsible for determining what material was covered, and what assignments were given.

Tardy Policy

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Students who are not present when I take attendance will be marked as tardy. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence. There are no excused tardies.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated by participation & preparation, composition projects, tests, and a podcast project. Assignment grades can be found via the “Grades” tab on Canvas. Do not use the final grade calculated by Canvas, as it is incorrect. Instead, consult the percentages below to calculate your grade:

Participation & Preparation:	5%
Assignments:	5%
Podcast Project:	18%
Tests	36%
Composition Projects:	36%

Scale:

A = 93-100 / A- = 90-92 / B+ = 87-89 / B = 83-86 / B- = 80-82 / C+ = 77-79 / C = 73-76 C- = 70-72 / D+ = 67-69 / D = 66-65 / D- = 63-64 / E = 0-62

Late Submission Policy

Late assignment submissions (not including late submissions due to excused absences) will be accepted with a grade deduction of 5% if submitted within 24 hours of the due date, and a 2.5% further reduction for each additional day the assignment is late. Grade deductions for late submission are capped at 50%.

To avoid grade deductions for late submission, students may request due-date extensions for assignments via email at least 24 hours in advance of the original due date. Extensions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

UF Student Honor Code

You are required to abide by the Student Honor Code. Any violation of the academic integrity expected of you will result in a minimum academic sanction of a failing grade on the assignment or assessment. Any alleged violations of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please review the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code at <http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Technology Policy:

Your attention is your most valuable asset; use it to the best of your ability. I reserve the right to dock your grade and/or ask you to leave class if you are inappropriately using technology in class.

Homework Policy:

You are expected to complete all reading and listening assignments. If you are unable to fully participate in class discussion because you failed to complete the assignments for a given day, your grade in the class will be adjusted accordingly.

Digital Resources

We will make use of Canvas for communication and assignments <https://ufl.instructure.com/>
Please check it frequently.

Helpful online textbook resources are available at:

<https://routledge-textbooks.com/textbooks/9781138792739/default.php>

Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. To request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD).

Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Schedule below (subject to change)

Week	Class	Date	Day	Unit	Topic	Assignments & Tests
1	1	8/23	Fri	Intro	Syllabus, Introduction	
2	2	8/26	Mon		What is Electronic Music? & History of Audio Recording Technology	
	3	8/28	Wed		Earliest Experiments in Electronic Music	
	4	8/30	Fri	Digital Audio	Introduction to Digital Audio and Audacity	Field Recordings Assnd.
3	5	9/4	Wed		Electronic Music Performance Instruments	
	6	9/6	Fri		Editing Digital Audio	FR Due, Pt. 2 Assigned
4	7	9/9	Mon	Electronic	Electronic Music in France	
	8	9/11	Wed	Music After	Elektronische Musik in Germany	
	9	9/13	Fri	1945 in the US and	Tape Music Techniques	FR Pt. 2 Due, Musique Concrète Project
5	10	9/16	Mon	Europe	Musique Concrète – In-class work	
	11	9/18	Wed		John Cage	
	12	9/20	Fri		The Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center	
6	13	9/23	Mon		Musique Concrète – In-class work	
	14	9/25	Wed		Setting up for Performances of Electroacoustic Music	
	15	9/27	Fri		Musique Concrète Presentations	Musique Concrète Due
7	16	9/30		Acoustics 1	Simple Vibrating Systems	
	17	10/2			Wave and Wave Propagation	
	18	10/4			Complex Vibrations and Resonance	
8	19	10/7	Mon		Test #1	Test #1
	20	10/9	Wed	Synthesizers	The Physics of Musical Sound	
	21	10/11	Fri		Introducing DAWs	Research Topic assigned

9	22	10/14	Mon		Analog and Digital Synthesis	
	23	10/16	Wed		Synthesis in a DAW	Synthesizer Proj.
10	24	10/21	Mon		MIDI	
	25	10/23	Wed		Moog and Buchla Synthesizers	
	26	10/25	Fri		Hands on with Analog Synthesizers	
11	27	10/28	Mon	Acoustics 2	Intensity and Loudness Levels	Research Topic Due
	28	10/30	Wed		Tone Quality (Timbre)	
	29	11/1	Fri		Frequency and Pitch	
12	30	11/4	Mon		Synthesizer Project – In-class work	
	31	11/6	Wed		Synthesizer Project Presentations	Synthesizer Project Due
	32	11/8	Fri		Introduction to Podcasts	Podcast Proj. Assigned
13	33	11/13	Wed	Computer	Computer Music Basics	
	34	11/15	Fri	Music	Computer Music Continued	
14	35	11/18	Mon		Digital Synthesis in a DAW	
	36	11/20	Wed		Test #2	Test #2
	37	11/22	Fri		Podcast In-class work	
15	38	12/2	Mon		Podcast In-class work	
	39	12/4	Wed		Podcast Project Presentations	Podcast Project Due