

Syllabus MUS 170 Music and Computers (WE)

Broome Community College Fall 2016

Mus-170: Music and Computers (WE)

Meeting: **Room CS-112**

Section 01: TR 2:00 - 3:15

Instructor: **Robert Greaves**

Email: greavesrw@sunybroome.edu

website: www.SoundChisel.com

Phone: Department secretary at (607) 778-5094

Office Hours: Monday 1:45 to 2:45 and by appointment.

Prerequisites: MUS 170 is a Writing Emphasis course, ENG 110 or an equivalent is required. Music Theory I, MUS 105, is very helpful but not required.

Course materials: No text book required. Expect handouts. Software used in the course is pre-installed on classroom computers. Assignments will be given in writing and posted on the website with a list of expectations and a summary of its purpose. Writing assignments will include examples. You will require Internet access outside of class and a USB memory device to store and transfer your files.

Outcomes: The successful student will:

- 1) Understand various ways musicians use computers as a music production tool, what this requires of a musician and the minimum computer configuration for various tasks. This section has a writing component and ends with an exam.
- 2) Complete various self-exploring tutorials in growing complexity creating printed sheet music (this is a writing component) using notation software (FINALE-2012).
- 3) Complete step by step workshops in growing complexity in MIDI & audio editing using a digital audio workstation (Pro Tools 10).
- 4) Be familiar with various resources musicians use to share and continue to expand their skill with music software. This section has a writing component.

Course format: Class time will be divided between lectures, workshops and tutorials. Outside of class there will be reading and writing assignments. All workshop and tutorial work **must be done in class**. **You accept full responsibility to complete all tutorials and to attend all workshops** consequently your attendance is a vital component to make this class a learning experience for you.

Grading: Workshops / tutorials will be negotiated based on both your **effort to engage the material** and the **results you achieve**. Written assignments will be graded based on the **genuine effort dedicated** to drafts towards college level **form and content** of your revised final versions. You will have opportunity to revise and improve written assignments even after a grade is given. Your test grade does not count until after you have had opportunity to correct it. Seek help from myself or from the Writing Center if needed. **Quizzes** can occur **unannounced**. Anything discussed or worked on in class is fair game for a quiz. Unexcused **absences, especially when we begin** a new section will lower my willingness to offer opportunities to improve your grade. You must put forth reasonable effort to complete all work required in the course. I reserve the right to give a negative grade for work not completed, this includes work that can only be done in class:

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Exam (only 1)	20%
Finale tutorials	20%
ProTools workshops	20%
Written papers (2)	20%
Various quizzes	10%
Class participation	10%

Disclaimer: Technical difficulties or other arising situations may require the instructor to make minor modifications to the syllabus.

A few rules:

- **Cheating:** Do your own work. Do not use files, MIDI or audio data from other sources or students as if it were your own work. Cheating will result in expulsion from the course.
- **Plagiarism:** Written assignments must credit sources for unoriginal content.
- **Mutual Respect:** Opinions differ. Let us all strive to treat each other with dignity.
- **Cell phones:** Off and out of sight in class except when discussed with me in advance.
- **Internet:** Students may access the internet in class only for purposes directly related to the class. Your social networking can wait.
- **Accommodations:** If you have any special needs or have athletic events that keep you from class, you must discuss this with me in advance.
- **Make up work:** No such thing. No assignments will be accepted after its due date unless arrangements have been made with me in advance of the due date.

I need an email address you will use for official communication about class. This is the email address I will use if I need to contact you about your class work and that you should use to contact me. For example:

Your first assignment graded as a quiz due prior to class number 3 is to send an email to my SUNYBroome email account:

GreavesRW@sunybroome.edu

The subject of your email should be:

MUS-170 Syllabus

The body of your email should contain the following sentence verbatim without the quotes: "Professor Greaves, I have received a copy of the syllabus for MUS-170 and agree to its terms and requirements." This should be followed by your full name. (I am not clever enough to figure out who sends messages from GuessWhoThisIs25@gmail.com.)

I ask you to follow all the instructions for this assignment exactly. You will have an opportunity to send me a revised email should your first not fulfill this assignment.

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Important dates: first class, Aug 30; last class Dec 15; this semester has 30 classes scheduled.

Class	Topics
1	Aug 30, Introduction to the course
2	Sep 1, Introductory lecture part 1 and preparation for writing assignment 1
3	Sep 6, Introductory lecture part 2 and further preparation for writing assignment 1
4	Sep 8, Introductory lecture part 3
5	Sep 13, Preparation for exam 1 and final preparation for writing assignment 1
6	Sep 15, Exam
7	Sep 20, First draft due writing assignment 1: Introduction to Finale 2007
8	Sep 22, Finale 2007, views and tools
9	Sep 27, Finale tutorials
10	Sep 29, Finale tutorials continued
11	Oct 4, Writing assignment 1 due, Finale 2007 tutorials continued
12	Oct 6, Lecture and finale tutorials continued BREAK Oct 11
13	Oct 13, Working with finale
14	Oct 18, Working with finale
15	Oct 20, ALL FINALE TUTORIALS DUE
16	Oct 25, Setting up external Audio and MIDI equipment
17	Oct 27, Lecture: Introduction to Pro Tools, the set up
18	Nov 1, PRO TOOLS: Interface, files and functions
19	Nov 3, PRO TOOLS: Creating sessions
20	Nov 8, PRO TOOLS : Recording Audio and MIDI
21	Nov 10, PRO TOOLS: Let's make a song
22	Nov 15, PRO TOOLS: Basic Mixing
23	Nov 17, PRO TOOLS: Advanced features
24	Nov 22, PRO TOOLS: Advanced features continued Thanksgiving BREAK Nov 23-26
25	Nov 29, PRO TOOLS: mixing and exporting in PRO TOOLS
26	Dec 1, Expanding your computer knowledge
27	Dec 6, Lecture: Industry resources and standards, Skill writing assignment
28	Dec 8, Draft due: Class discussion on draft
29	Dec 13, Lecture: expanding your skills
30	Dec 15, Closing remarks and final writing assignment due.

Letter grade break down: 69 = D; 71 = C-; 76 = C; 79 = C+; 81 = B-; 86 = B; 89 = B+; 93 = A-; 94+ = A

The instructor maintains a web site at www.soundchisel.com where relevant course information pertaining to due dates and other official information will be posted.