Computer Assisted Recording and Editing (MUIN 446a)
Course Syllabus, Spring 2014 – 43432D
Wednesdays 2-3:50PM G147 Lab

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Office Hours: On UPC Campus T-Th, and/or by appointment

Course Description

Computer Assisted Recording is an introduction to techniques and applications of recording sound on personal computers. Discussions will also include a study of current hardware and software required as well as standardized basic editing workflows and techniques of music, dialog, and sound effects for song, commercials and film.

Requirements, Exams and Grading Information:

Student evaluation in 446a will consist of tests and practical assignments. The assignments include short exercises and one term project. In general, students will be given one week to complete and turn in exercises. Assignments turned in late will be lowered one grade per week and will not be accepted beyond two weeks late. All assignments must carefully follow file management and format guidelines. Instructions for the term project will be available at a later date.

Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class throughout the semester (4-5), which consist of multiple choice questions and true/false questions. The final will be a hands-on exam designed to test the practical skills developed during the semester. Quizzes and tests must be taken during the scheduled times and cannot be made up at a later date.

Attendance is taken each class and will count towards your final grade. After two absences your grade will be lowered one-half grade for each additional absence. Because of the importance of hands on experience with this subject, attendance to all classes is the only method of understanding the concepts of this specialized topic.

Grading Summary:

1. Participation   10%
2. 4 Quizzes   20%
3. Final Hand's On Exam   20%
4. Lab Exercises   30%
5. Term DAW Mixing Project   20%

***Please be advised anyone found surfing the web will be asked to leave the class. Before you can be readmitted to the class you must meet with the program chair.

Class Materials:

1. Textbook: "Pro Tools 101: An Introduction to Pro Tools – software version 11" (required, available at bookstore and Amazon.com)
2. Pro-Tools 11 Documentation (All) - Pro Tools 11 Docs (zip) downloadable
3. Instructor handouts and lecture notes (available on Blackboard under Course Content)
4. Reference headphones are required and should be brought to all classes. Must have ¼" connector or adapter. No ear buds. All assignments will be evaluated using AKG 240M or Sony MDR 7506 reference headphones!
5. USB Memory Stick

Communication:

Please make it a habit to use/check your USC E-mail account. Any E-mails I send to the class will use that account. ***Please add "446a" in the subject header of all emails that you send me*** This will help me to organize all the emails that I receive and respond to you more quickly. In addition all course materials and class grades will be posted on Blackboard (http://blackboard.usc.edu). For example the course syllabus can be found under Course Syllabus, lecture notes under Course Content, and exercise and project instructions under Assignments.

Disabilities:

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is 213/740-0776.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity-Students are expected to adhere to the Academic Integrity Guidelines of USC as outlined in the current edition of SCampus. Work found to contain plagiarized or uncited materials will be referred to the USC Office of Student Conduct for review. Academic Integrity violations will result in a failing grade for submitted material and for the course, and dismissal from the Music Industry Program for majors and minors.

Class Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading Lesson
1	Introduction	101 – 1
2	Getting Started (Exercise 1)	101 – 2
3	Basic Recording Techniques (Exercise 2)	101 – 3 and 4
4	Basic Editing (Exercise 3)	101 – 8
5	Importing Audio (Exercise 4)	101 – 5 and 7
6	Looping Audio in PTs (Exercise 5)	Lecture Notes
7	Advanced Tracking Techniques (Exercise 6)	Lecture Notes
8	Inserts, Sends and Groups (Exercise 7)	101 – 9
9	Organizing the Mix Term Project Explanation	Lecture Notes
11	Plug-ins (Exercise 8)	Lecture Notes
12	Signal Processing	Lecture Notes
13	Signal Processing II	Lecture Notes
14	Automation, Session and File Management	Lecture Notes 101 – 10
15	Final Project progress check, Keyboard Shortcut Quiz (In Class)	
16	Final Project Due 5pm on the Flora Server	
17/18	Final Exam	

Schedule Subject to change

*** Important Note! CSS G-147 will be closed as of 5pm on start of Study Week (TBD). There will be no open lab time after that date. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Please plan accordingly.