Introduction to MIDI Sequencing (MTEC 245)
Course Syllabus
Online Remote Learning

Important Registration Information

Enrolled or enrolling students are given ONLY the first week of instruction to add/drop an 8-week semester course.

Please review these policies via Trojan online scheduling. No exceptions will be allowed.

Course Description

MTEC 245 is an 8-week semester online course introducing techniques and applications of MIDI sequencing; recording, editing and mixing of digitally produced data on personal computers. Instruction includes; creating unique sounds, using synthesizers and samplers, and learn how to mix and process those sounds with a vast array of effects. Discussions will also include a study of current trends of hardware and software required as well as standardized basic workflows and techniques of music production in various styles and genres.

Student Course Objectives:

- Learn the fundamentals of music composition and production using Logic Pro X while creating a series of musical portfolios.
- Develop composition sketch's into a full-length arrangement.
- Create and process original sounds to add to your music.
- Save the sounds you create to begin building your own library of Logic sounds.
- Create lead, pad, and transition sounds with various software instruments.
- Apply demonstrated mixing lessons to create a final mix of one of your tracks.
- Create personal portfolio production examples,
- Expand your sound library using advanced techniques, and expand your mixing and processing skills using Logic's included production tools.
- Finish your tracks for possible promotional material for yourself and your music.

Requirements - Labs, Project, Quizzes and Grading Information:

Student evaluation in MTEC 245 will consist of online presented modules which include module video presentations, quiz assessments, practical lab assignments and projects. The assignments include short follow-along exercises. In general, students will be given one week to complete and turn in lab 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. Written instructions for the term project will be available via course Blackboard. But, in general, will include demonstrated and learned techniques from all course work to date

Quizzes will be administered throughout the semester from assigned Blackboard online module content, consisting of multiple choice/answer and true/false questions. Quizzes and tests assessments must be taken during the scheduled times and cannot be made up at later dates.

A Course Participation score will count towards your final course syllabus Participation points grade. Keeping student works up to date and timely submitted will be considered. Because of the importance of hands-on experience with this subject, weekly participation of all presented modules is the best method of understanding the concepts of these specialized topics and workdlows.

Grading Summary:

Item	Point Value	Grading Criteria
1. Participation	10 pts/%	See syllabus attendance for details
2. 3 - Quizzes	42 pts/%	Total questions possible/total % correct
3. 8 - Module Lab Exercises	48 pts/%	Timely submission, complete as directed

Class Materials:
1. Logic Pro X application and working DAW system
2. Reference headphones are required and should be brought to all classes if face to face meetings or with instructor meetings. Must have ¼" connector or adapter. No ear buds. **Do not use headphones with built-in microphones** such as for telephones (No four-pole connectors). All assignments will be evaluated using AKG 240M or Sony MDR 7506 reference headphones or professional studio monitoring system

Communication:
Please make it a daily habit to use/check your USC E-mail account. Any E-mails instructor sent to the class will use that account. ***Please add "245" 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.

Blackboard:
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, project instructions, quizzes 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 would 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.

Grading Scale

A 100-94	A- 93-90	B+ 89-87	B 86-83	B- 82-80	C= 79-77	C, 76-73
C- 72-70	D+ 69-67	D 66-64	D- 63-60	F Below 60		

Class Schedule
(*Schedule and Content Subject to Instructor Changes*)

Week	Topic	Module Content
1	**Module 1** Course introduction, LPX purchases, installation, setup and Mac OS Maintenance. Introduction to DAW and computer lab environment	
2	**Module 2** Drummer Elements – Use LPX Drummer, Drum Editor Interface, Lab 1	Module Quiz 1 – MIDI *From provided Blackboard Content*
3	**Module 3** Drummer 2, Global settings, Markers, Colors, Control Bar, Producer Kits, Introduction to Drum Machine Designer, Alias regions, Production layering, Lab 2	
4	**Module 4** The Foundations of Bass in a track, Bass and Bass Synths, Basic Record, MIDI Note Editing, Pencil Note Editing, MIDI Copy and Paste, Musical Intervals, MIDI Draw and transposition techniques Lab 3	Module Quiz 2 – Synthesizer Basics *From provided Blackboard Content*
5	**Module 5** Chords and Harmonic Keyboards and Synths, Importing MIDI files Recording Preferences, Recording Modes, additional Soft Synths, Basics of Chord Qualities Major and Minor, Vintage Soft Synths Lab 4 and Lab 5	
6	**Module 6** Toplines and Melodies Subtractive Synths, Pitch Bend, Arpeggio Synths, Intro to MIDI Automation, Additional Production Layering and Bouncing Lab 6	

7	Module 7 Step Sequencer, MIDI EFX and Apple Loops, Track Duplication Lab 7	Logic Pro Quiz 3 – *From provided Blackboard Content*
8	Module 8 Mixing Windows, Screensets, Channel Strip Components, Basic EQ, Basic Dynamic Processors, Sends with Reverb and Delays, Automation, Project Bouncing Options Lab 8	All Student Course Works Due by Friday 8 PM End of 8th Week of course semester