

Module Specification

Module Title: Recording Studio Techniques 2

Module code:	TBC	NQF level:	Level 5
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Applicable pathways:	Foundation Degree – Music Production	Pre-requisites:	None

Module overview

Building upon the foundations covered in Recording Studio Techniques 1, this module will explore a range of music production techniques and attributes at a complex level. Students will further develop skills in arranging, tracking, signal routing as well as patch bay routing of outboard dynamic and effects processors, digital audio editing, mixing, post production and finalising a recording project. They will also be introduced to location recording and working with found sounds. Students will examine digital audio theory, including: sample rate, bit depth and dither. They will identify and implement the requirements needed to successfully manage a recording session to a professional standard as well as to demonstrate effective communication skills in the recording studio environment.

Areas of study include:

- Extended Signal Routing;
- Practical implementation of Digital Audio Theory;
- Production Analysis;
- Location Recording;
- Sound FX Capture.

Aims

The module is designed to expand upon the specialist knowledge and skills acquired in the Recording Studio Techniques 1 module. It will develop the student's ability to demonstrate theoretical and practical considerations when recording and producing music. This will include listening skills and analysis of genre specific to production values. Students will work together in small groups and further develop their project management and communication skills by sourcing musicians and artists for their projects and building a working relationship with them. This module will also introduce students to the concepts of location recording and sound effects capture as well as furthering their understanding of multitrack and stereo recording techniques.

The module aims to:

1. Development of listening and analytical skills.
2. Expand upon technical knowledge through specialist knowledge and skills.
3. Explore Digital Audio Editing and Mixing Techniques.
4. Introduce students to Location Recording and sound FX Capture (found sounds).

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Apply significant judgement using specialist knowledge and skills for application within an integrated recording studio environment.
2. Apply a command of practical knowledge of microphone and recording/mixing techniques to shape musical elements in the context of specific genres.
3. Apply and articulate a practical understanding of all aspects of project management.
4. Evidence contributions to group work through assignment specific contribution targets.

Learning and teaching methods

The module is delivered as tutor led workshops in a recording studio environment, where students will work in small groups to further explore common themes and techniques. Students will consolidate their understanding of recording and production processes and be given opportunities to show responsibility for planning and executing tasks/projects in order to develop appropriate vocational skills.

Contact hours and directed study (over semester 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	40 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	160 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Regular formative assessment through workshops and practical exercises.

Assessment method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Production Portfolio (individual)	3 minutes	30%	1, 2, 3
Production Portfolio (Group Submission)	3 minutes	30%	1, 2, 3, 4
Production Portfolio (individual)	6 minutes	40%	1, 2, 3

Re-Assessment method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Production Portfolio (individual)	3 minutes	30%	1, 2, 3
Production Portfolio (Group Submission)	3 minutes	30%	1, 2, 3, 4
Production Portfolio (individual)	6 minutes	40%	1, 2, 3

Indicative Reading List

- Borwick, J. (ed.) (1996) Sound Recording Practice, 4th ed. Oxford, OUP.
- Cleland, D. (2001) A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge 2000, The Project Management Institute.
- Eargle, J. (2001) The Microphone Book, Focal Press
- Hepworth-Sawyer, R. & Golding C. (2010) What is Music Production? A producers guide, the role, the people, the process. Focal Press.
- Huber, D. Runstein, R (2013) Modern Recording Techniques, 8th ed. Focal Press.
- Nokes, S. (2003) The Definitive Guide to Project Management: The Fast Track to Getting the Job Done on Time and on Budget, Financial Times Prentice Hall.
- Ballou G. (2015) Handbook for Sound Engineers (Audio Engineering Society Presents). Focal Press.
- Owsinski, B. (1999). The Mixing Engineers Handbook. Mixbooks.
- Nisbett, A. (2003) Sound Studio: Audio Techniques for Radio, Television, Film and Recording, Focal Press
- Rumsey F. McCormick T. (2014) Sound & Recording, 7th ed. Focal Press
- Stavrou, M. (2003), Mixing With Your Mind. Flux research.

e-resources

- <http://www.soundonsound.com> – Pro audio, recording & production
- <http://www.musictech.net> – Music technology resources and news
- <http://tapeop.com> – Sound engineering resources and news
- <http://www.recordingmag.com> – Magazine for recording musicians

- <https://www.resolutionmag.com> – Audio for broadcasting
- <https://www.puremix.net>Mixing