CALVARY UNIVERSITY

Syllabus

15800 Calvary Rd
Kansas City, MO 64147

Course: MU310 D DN - Recording & Music Production (Independent)
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Fall 2025, Session I
DAY/TIME/ROOM: Tuesday and Thursday/9:30-10:50AM/E. Ed. 107
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Ian Guthrie/ Ian.guthrie@calvary.edu

I.   DESCRIPTION

Recording & Music Production - An overview of the components of a basic recording studio and techniques for producing broadcast ready recordings. It is recommended that students have completed or are currently enrolled in MU213 Music Technology.

II.   OBJECTIVE

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Examine hardware and software for recording.
   a. PLO 3
   b. A, B, C, D
2. Develop critical listening skills.
   a. PLO 3
   b. A, C, D
3. Gain understanding in the music production process.
   a. PLO 1, 2, 3
   b. A, B, C, D
4. Create an expressive and permanent record of a musical idea.
   a. PLO 3
   b. A, B, C, D

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Identify the components needed to produce a recording.
   a. PLO 3
   b. A, B, C, D
2. Demonstrate the listening skills necessary to troubleshoot and fine tune a recording.
   a. PLO 3
   b. A, C, D
3. Design and maintain a personal home recording studio.

       a. PLO 3
       b. A, B,
4. Develop the proper concept of Christian ministry through music production.
       a. PLO 1, 2, 3
       b. A, B, C, D

III.   REQUIREMENTS

A. Assignments: Complete the assignments from assigned readings, software, and instructor in a timely manner as specified by the instructor.
B. Text: Complete assigned readings (TBD), which will be assigned throughout the term.
C. Projects: Complete the assigned projects using information from class lectures, software and assigned readings.
D. Time:
   1. The student should expect to spend a comparable amount of time on their laptop as they would for a 3-credit class with a textbook. Homework will involve applying concepts from class discussions and assigned readings, in addition to time recording and producing original music.
   2. The student should expect to spend some time in collaboration with other students (if applicable).
   3. Additional time should be spent on reading, research and projects.
   4. Because the nature of this class is to develop a skillset useful for music production, part of class time (or the equivalent) will be spent working on projects. Participation in mandatory.

IV.   GRADING

- Assignments (These can include reading summaries, miniature projects, and other assignments; see below)   60%
- Completion of projects   <u>40%</u>
                                         Total: 100%

V.   MATERIALS

- Various articles TBD. No purchases necessary.
- *The Bible*. See **"Bible is a required textbook"** statement below.

VI.   OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

In-class attendance and discussion is mandatory and is part of the student's overall final grade.

All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

Grading Scale: See grading scale in the university catalog.

VII.   TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Week 1: Initial meeting; introduction and review from MU213
- Week 2: Read and 1-page, single-spaced summary on VCAs (audio), VCOs (MIDI)
    - An Introduction To VCAs
    - Sound Synthesis: Part 1 (for VCOs)
- Weeks 3-4: Small project on mixing tracks I provide (you will utilize VCAs and VCOs)
    - Project should be at least 2 minutes long
    - Student(s) need to explain how they used "VCOs" and "VCAs"
    - **Exam on terminology at the end of Week 4**
- Week 5: Midterm meeting; read and 1-page, single-spaced summary on dealing with peaking, pitch manipulation, and manipulation
    - Read The Art of Vocal Tuning and Pitch Correction - RouteNote Create Blog
    - Get a trial of Melodyne and Auto-Tune, and see how well they with pitch correction
    - Compare this with how you might do it in Reaper
    - Refer back to the VCA article for peaking
    - Other "manipulations" can include any VCOs and CVs, so explore those in the DAW of your choice
- Week 6-7: Small project on peaking and mastering; be working on final project
    - Draft a final project
    - You need to use tonality (minor at the very least; major or modality optional)

- o You need to use various effects
- o You need to master it, and manipulate it
- o Avoid any peaking
- Week 8: Final meeting; Final project and in-person or pre-recorded presentation (please discuss with teacher about your options)

*Carnegie Unit Worksheet

MU310D.DN Recording and Music Production

Assignments		External/Online	
		Hours	Assigned
"Seat Time" in class		21	
Reading (pages)		32	
Assignments		48	
Projects		34	
Total		135	