

Sound Production Engineering Syllabus

Instructor: Billy Hickey
Email: billyhickey@gmail.com

Course Objective:

Students will learn audio studio recording techniques and demonstrate techniques in projects and class labs. Students will work with advanced music software with audio and midi capabilities, work with printed music, and digitally edit music recordings.

Required Supplies:

There is no textbook for this class. Instead you will be expected to take notes during class. At the beginning of each section you will receive a vocabulary list. I strongly suggest that you write down the definition to each term when it is covered, however do not limit your notes to these terms only!

Grading:

This course will be graded with an A+/-, B+/-, C+/-, D+, F grading scale with the following breakdowns:

The student's grades will be totaled from the following categories:

Homework – 5% of total grade

Unless specifically noted otherwise, homework is due the class following the date it is assigned.

Quizzes – 20% of total grade

Quizzes will be given at the end of every section. After grading, quizzes will be returned to students to view their score and see their mistakes, but will be returned to and kept by Mr. Hickey for the semester. Failure to return a graded quiz the same class period will result in a failing grade in the quiz, as well as loss in class participation points. The two lowest quiz grades during the semester will be dropped.

In class participation – 15% of total grade

All students start with an "A" in this category. Students can lose points if they are not actively engaged in classes, are discipline problems, or disobey any of the studio safety rules. A max of five points a day will be awarded.

Tests – 20% of total grade

Four tests will be given covering the different sections covered. After grading, the tests will be handed back, but must be returned the same day.

Observe sessions – 10% of total grade

Students are expected to attend and actively assist on sessions that take place at the school after school hours. Students are expected to attend at least two sessions, one in the first advisory period, and one in the second. Only one student from each class is allowed to attend any given session.

Projects – 10% of total grade

Students will be assigned project in which they must work both in and out of class on.

Mid Term – 10% of total grade

The midterm will cover the first semester's material.

Final – 10% of total grade

The final will cover the second semester's material, as well as some of the material from the first semester.

Attendance and Missed Classes:

Enrolled students must attend all classes. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared. All students must sign in on the sign in book at the beginning of class. Students will not be allowed to leave once class has started. Any students arriving late without an acceptable note explaining their tardiness will be refused entry to the studio and have an unexcused absence attributed to them. Unexcused absences will result in loss of all class participation points for the day, students will be unable to makeup missed assignments, and will not receive any credit for assignments due on that day.

Students with five or more unexcused absences will fail the course. Missing class periods on a “Monday” schedule (45 min periods) count as 1 missed class; missing class periods on a “Tuesday”, “Wednesday”, “Thursday”, and “Friday” schedules (90 min periods) count as 2 missed classes. Excuses for absences must be provided to both the front office and be presented on the class period following the missed class. When students miss class with an excused absence, they will have one day per missed class to makeup any missed assignments. It is the students’ responsibility to get all notes and assignments from their other classmates.

Student Conduct:

Please remember, that if you are in this class, that means that your other teachers and department heads have decided that you are above and beyond your peers at Duke Ellington School of Arts. Your actions and behavior should reflect this trust and respect that has been bestowed upon you. Students are expected to behave in a courteous and professional behavior in the studio at all times including any after school sessions in the studio. Failure to do so will result in loss of participation grades, and when necessary, disciplinary action. **Cell phones are not allowed in the studio.** Any cell phones used in the studio will be confiscated. Should students become a distraction or discipline problem, they will be removed from the class for the day and possibly even the semester if warranted. Students are not allowed to bring in any food or drinks into the studio.

Explicit Lyrics and Profanity:

The goal of this class, as well as Duke Ellington School of the Arts, is to nurture and encourage artistic expression and growth, as well as expose students to various forms of artistic expression. That being said, there is appropriate and inappropriate language for the recordings made in this class. The lyrical content of the songs recorded in the studio are not allowed to contain gratuitous use of profanity, violent or sexual content, insults or threats to any persons, or favorable references to drug use or any other illegal or inappropriate behavior. Duke Ellington staff and faculty will use their discretion as to determining what is appropriate.

Turning in Assignments

Students must turn in assignments on the designated due date during the beginning of class. All assignments must be typed and handed in on presentable, legible, and clean paper. Assignments not matching this standard may be refused and given no credit.

Students:

I have read the syllabus for this course and agree to all of the listed conditions and terms.
I understand what is expected of me and will do my best to deliver on those expectations.

Student Signature

Date

Partents/ Gardiens

I understand what is expected of my child and will ensure that they meet the expectations set forth in this course.

Parent/ Gardien Signature

Date