

**MUS306**  
**RECORDING TECHNIQUES**  
**2013-S01**

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**Goals and objectives:**

This course is designed to provide students with a solid technical understanding of the recording process, from the creation of sound all the way to the final recorded medium. An appreciation for the art of recording and the development of critical listening techniques will be fostered through in-class recording sessions and class listening. Individual and group recording, editing and mixing assignments allow students to practice these skills further.

**Course Materials:**

Francis Rumsey and Tim McCormick, *"Sound and Recording"* (sixth edition).

**Course Policies:**

- 1) Students are expected to attend all classes regularly and punctually.
- 2) Absences for serious health reasons only, or in extreme and unavoidable circumstances, and with appropriate documentation.
- 3) Cheating and plagiarism are offences subject to serious penalty, and will not be tolerated. Please see the University of Victoria Policy on Academic Integrity for detailed guidelines on these issues:  
<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2010/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcl.html>
- 4) Final assessment of student performance and percentage-to-grade point conversion can be found here:  
<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2013/FACS/UnIn/UARe/Grad.html>
- 5) Students with special needs should contact your teacher as soon as possible to discuss accommodations.

**Grading and evaluation:**

Labs/Assignments (3 recordings, one editing project)*	40%
Mid-Terms (two)	40%
Major recording project*	20%

**\*Specific assessment techniques will be provided for assignments and the major recording project.**

## Lecture Schedule:

- Week 1** - **Friday, September 6**  
- Introductions, in-class listening
- Week 2** - **Tuesday, September 10**  
- Physics of Sound  
- Reading: Chapter 1, pp.1-15  
- Assignment #1 (due January 15<sup>th</sup>)
- **Friday, September 13**  
- Sound and Hearing (ITD, IID, HRTF)  
- Reading: Chapter 2, pp. 29-41
- Week 3** - **Tuesday, September 17**  
- Assignment #1 due, class listening  
- Decibels, sound power and sound pressure, levels and metering  
- Reading: Chapter 1, pp. 16-23 including Fact file 1.2 & 1.3
- **Friday, September 20**  
- Critical distance, RT60  
- Assignment #2, Mono Recording (due February 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Week 4** - **Tuesday, September 24**  
- Microphone theory, type & construction  
- Reading: Chapter 3, pp. 47-68
- **Friday, September 27**  
- Mics con't, multi-pattern, polar patterns
- Week 5** - **Tuesday, October 1**  
- Fundamentals of Stereophonic Recording  
- Reading: Chapter 16, pp. 471-507
- **Friday, October 4**  
- Assignment #2 due, class listening  
- Stereo Techniques (XY, AB, combination)
- Week 6** - **Tuesday, October 8**  
- Stereo Techniques (MS), Exam Review  
- Assignment #3, Stereo Recording (due March 1<sup>st</sup>)
- **Friday, October 11**  
- Exam #1
- Week 7** - **Tuesday, October 15**  
- Exams back, Console Theory  
- Reading: Chapter 5, pp.107-137
- **Friday, October 18**  
- Bussing, Aux Sends, Inserts

- Week 8**
- **Tuesday, October 22**
  - Audio processing, (EQ, Dynamics, FX)
  - Chapter 13, pp. 381-395
  - **Friday, October 25**
  - Assignment #3 due, class listening
  - Balanced audio, interconnects, connectors, DI's and patch-bays
  - Reading: Chapter 12, pp. 353-365, 370-379
- Week 9**
- **Tuesday, October 29th**
  - Digital audio, binary, sampling, quantization, dither
  - Reading: Chapter 8, pp. 201-229
  - **Friday, November 1**
  - Digital audio con't
- Week 10**
- **Tuesday, November 5**
  - Exam #2
  - **Friday, November 8**
  - Intro to Reaper
  - Assignment #4, Reaper editing (due April 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- Week 11**
- **Friday, November 15**
  - Reaper editing
- Week 12**
- **Tuesday, November 19**
  - Reaper editing/mixing
  - **Friday, November 22**
  - Reaper mixing con't
- Week 13**
- **Tuesday, November 26**
  - Mastering basics
- Week 14**
- **Friday, April 5**
  - Assignment #4 due, class viewing/listening