MECO838

The Art of Recording: Sound and Society

S1 Day 2014

Dept of Media, Music & Cultural Studies

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MCrMedia or PGCertCrMedia

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit examines recorded sound and its relation to society. Areas of investigation include changes in technology and cultural context, expectations of fidelity, remote and field recording issues and practice, production values, media and distribution, recording ethics and relevant legal issues.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society

Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording

Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations

Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Essay	25%	23/5/2014
Essay draft	10%	2/5/2014
Reading summaries	15%	Continuous from week 3
Production analysis portfolio	30%	Week 13
Exegesis	20%	Week 13

Essay

Due: **23/5/2014**
Weighting: **25%**

Students are to write an essay of no longer than 3000 words on a topic exploring music production and its relationship to society.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society
- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording
- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Essay draft

Due: **2/5/2014**
Weighting: **10%**

Students are to submit a first draft of their essay which will be read by the tutor for suggestions/ editing.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society
- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Reading summaries

Due: **Continuous from week 3**
Weighting: **15%**

A series of readings are presented throughout the course, and students are to write critical summaries of five of these,. These are to be handed in progressively (on the week the reading is due), starting in week 3.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society

- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording

- Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations

- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Production analysis portfolio

Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **30%**

In consultation with the convenor/tutor, students will research selected areas of recorded music production, and explore these through guided recordings. Suggested areas include examination of equalisation techniques, and the creation of ABX tests for particular parts of the recording chain.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording

- Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations

- Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Exegesis

Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **20%**

Students are to describe the selection, analysis and process of recordings as part of the recording portfolio.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording

- Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

Delivery and Resources

See iLearn

Unit Schedule

See iLearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society
- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording
- Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations
- Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Reading summaries

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate changes in human uses of technology with regard to sound recording
- Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

Assessment task

- Essay

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critically evaluate the history of recorded sound and technology; examine recording and its relationship to society
- Evaluate the rise of production as a crucial part of the recording process

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations

Assessment task

- Reading summaries

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critically examine the relationship between the producers of recordings and market expectations

- Apply ethical and legal matters in relation to recording and distribution