MMCC2020

Music Production: The Virtual Studio

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

Contents

Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Denis Crowdy
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Contact via Email
Y3A 193G
By appointment

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Contemporary music production and composition is increasingly reliant on computer technology. In this unit, students are introduced to principles of composition and production using specialized software programs and virtual instruments. Students develop technical skills as well as compositional literacy. Creativity is encouraged, as students produce original musical works within the dedicated music computer laboratory. While music production software is used in this unit, no prior computer production or musical ability is necessary.

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:

ULO1: apply proficiency with technological composition and musical creativity.

ULO2: analyse and describe creative musical works.

ULO3: evaluate musical ideas and participate in shared creativity both in class and online.

ULO4: practice independent problem-solving and analytical judgement in the application of specialized software in music making.

ULO5: produce and time-manage creative and research projects.

General Assessment Information

'Please note that the University and the Faculty of Arts have launched a new assessment policy effective as of 1 July 2021. This new policy particularly affects LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENTS.

The Faculty policy in relation to late assessment submissions is as follows:

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests, etc.

To be very clear:

·   Unless you have applied for special consideration and had your application approved, for each day your assignment is late, 10 marks will be deducted. For example, if you submit your assignment 7 days late, 70 marks will be deducted, which means you will fail that assignment.

·   If your assignment is more than 7 days late (including weekends), you will get 0 marks for your assignment.

These are serious penalties that will substantially alter your final grade and even determine whether you pass or fail this unit. Please make every effort to submit your assignment by the due date.

If you find you cannot submit your assignment on time, please apply for Special Consideration through AskMQ. Make sure you read Macquarie University's policy regarding Special Consideration requests before you apply: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration'

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Digital Audio Workstation Assessment	30%	No	17:00 on 3/6/2022
Process diary	30%	No	17:00 on 3/6/2022
Electronic Music Production Assessment	40%	No	17:00 on 29/4/2022

Digital Audio Workstation Assessment

Assessment Type [1]: Creative work
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours
Due: **17:00 on 3/6/2022**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will produce a short 1 – 2 minute audio recording in a digital audio workstation that demonstrates introductory skills in audio editing and management. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply proficiency with technological composition and musical creativity.
- evaluate musical ideas and participate in shared creativity both in class and online.
- practice independent problem-solving and analytical judgement in the application of specialized software in music making.
- produce and time-manage creative and research projects.

Process diary

Assessment Type [1]: Reflective Writing
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours
Due: **17:00 on 3/6/2022**
Weighting: **30%**

Students will produce a process diary that documents the creative and technical processes employed in both project assessments for this unit. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- analyse and describe creative musical works.
- evaluate musical ideas and participate in shared creativity both in class and online.
- produce and time-manage creative and research projects.

Electronic Music Production Assessment

Assessment Type [1]: Creative work
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **17:00 on 29/4/2022**
Weighting: **40%**

Students will complete a short 2 minute work for software synthesisers and MIDI sequencing that makes use of real-time controllers. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply proficiency with technological composition and musical creativity.
- evaluate musical ideas and participate in shared creativity both in class and online.
- practice independent problem-solving and analytical judgement in the application of specialized software in music making.
- produce and time-manage creative and research projects.

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Tutorials

Tutorials start in week 2.

Software

Ableton Live (11) is the music production software used in this unit. The music lab has copies of this, and students are able to book times to work in this space. If you intend to work on your projects using your own computer, then you will need to obtain your own copy of Ableton Live. See https://www.ableton.com/en/live/what-is-live/

Ableton offer a free trial version for 90 days, which is a great introduction to the software. If you intend to use the 90 day version, then note that March 5 2022 is 90 days before the final assessment due date.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy

- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

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