

## Course Syllabus

MUS 54 - Studio Recording I, 4 Unit(s)

Instructor: Dave Elke

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Prerequisite(s): MUS 51 and MUS 52

17 hours Lecture

153 hours Lab

*This is a hands-on, project-based course in which students will apply learned methods and skills to a studio recording session. Students will set up and record professional quality live music sessions. Students will learn proper microphone technique and post-production mixing techniques. This course will also cover setting up and managing MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) recording equipment. Course will also cover Copyright and ethics of music ownership rights. Since skills/proficiencies are enhanced by supervised repetition and practice, this course may be repeated two times.*

### Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Manage and organize professional studio recording projects.
2. Demonstrate the ability to mix a sound recording.
3. Demonstrate the ability to export recording projects to CD and the Internet.
4. Set up and manage MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) recording equipment.
5. Set up, track and mix a live studio recording project.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of Copyright law and the ethics of music ownership rights.

### Lecture Topics:

1. Computer recording techniques, setup and applications.
2. Recording session set up.
3. Tools and tips for mastering an audio mix recording.
4. Methods of exporting the final audio product.
5. The MIDI studio: Equipment and recording procedures.
6. Copyright and ethics of music ownership rights.

### Lab Topics

1. Set up for practice recording project, project overview and planning.
2. Students apply skills in microphone placement by setting up microphones for a full band recording session. Students will learn standard microphone placement technique, as well as creative application of microphone use and placement.
3. Set up headphone mix.
4. Set up monitoring and mixing console.
5. Record scratch tracks and playback in various monitor arrangements.
6. Recording project 1. Students will apply all studio methods learned to a live band studio recording. Students will set up band gear and microphones.

Students will engineer the recording of an original song.  
Students will work in a group to mix, master and export final version of recording.  
7. Recording project 2. Students will apply all studio methods learned to a live band studio recording. Students will set up band gear and microphones.  
Students will engineer the recording of an original song by a local/regional band. Students will work in a group to mix, master and export final version of recording. Students will gain experience in managing a recording session, producing a band, and workflow/time management methods.  
8. Listen and review projects. 5.00

## **GRADES:**

**Research paper 1, producer/engineer report:** 100 points

**Research paper 2, mics, preamps, and gear used in pro studios:** 100 points

### **Group recording project 1:**

Tracking and overdubs: 150 points

Mix and export: 150 points

### **Group recording project 2:**

Tracking and overdubs: 150 points

Mix and export: 150 points

**Golden Ears random quizzes:** 200 points (5-25 points each)

Total: 1,000 points

Grading scale:

900-1000 = A

800-900 = B

700-800 = C

600-700 = D

below 600 = F

note: You are allowed to miss three class meetings for any reason. After the fourth absence you will AUTOMATICALLY be dropped from the class for "lack of participation" with a W or WF depending on when your last date of attendance occurs.

\*Since the main focus of this class is band recordings by groups of students, it is crucial that students be present. A student absence on a project recording date will result in that student getting an "F" for that project due to lack of participation.