

Northern Wyoming Community College District — Sheridan College

MUSC 1385—Music Technology Ensemble (1 credit)

Spring 2015 • W • 2:00-3:50 PM

Whitney 207 • Music Department • Fine Arts Division

Instructor and Contact Information

Dr. Christian Erickson

Office: Whitney 204J

Office hours: MTWThF 10:00 AM (additional hours by appointment)

(307) 674-6446, extension 3050

scmusictech@gmail.com (preferred method of contact)

Course Description

This ensemble meets weekly to create, rehearse, and perform music using handheld electronic devices, laptop computers, synthesizers, and other instruments. Emphasis is placed on group composition and improvisation in a variety of musical styles and genres.

Prerequisites

Consent of the instructor via audition or conference.

Co-requisites

None

Purpose

The Music Technology Ensemble is a creative performance group that provides students musical interaction opportunities with other players. It may be applied as a general elective or may be used to partially fulfill the ensemble requirement for the A.F.A. in Music. MUSC 1385 Music Technology Ensemble may be applied as an elective for the Associates of Fine Arts degree in music, or as a general elective for any other degree.

Course Format

Lab

Grading

Letter

Texts/Materials

- Sennheiser HD 202 Headphones (available at the campus bookstore) or other over-the-ear headphones with a 3.5 mm mini-stereo plug and 1/4" adapter
- Access to the Internet
- USB Flash Drive (2GB or larger)
- Although not a required purchase, students are encouraged to bring any personal electronic music-making devices to class for the purpose of music-making.

Minimum Student Outcomes

Upon completion of MUSC 1385 Music Technology Ensemble the student will:

- execute musical performances on their selected and/or assigned instrument(s).
- respond to non-verbal communication from the director and other performers.
- recognize musical styles and genres.
- interpret written notation into musical performances.
- explain methods of interconnectivity of electronic instruments with sound monitoring/reinforcement systems.
- contribute to creative group compositions.

Approximate Final Grade Evaluation

60% — Attendance and Participation

40% — Public Performance

Descriptions of Graded Course Components

Attendance and Participation: These two aspects are vital to learning in a music ensemble class, and therefore will weigh heaviest in assessing student performance. Students are expected to attend rehearsals regularly, arrive on time, and stay for the entire session. Participation may include working in creative tandem with smaller groups as well as the ensemble as a whole. As this is a creative performing group, all members are expected to contribute to the group composition process.

Public Performance: We will perform in a public venue toward the end of the semester. Attendance at and participation in the performance is required. Details regarding the date, time and place will be relayed to students as soon as they are known. Except in the case of urgent emergency situations, failure to participate in the performance will result in a 'zero' for this portion of the final grade (see "Absences and Make-up Policy" for further details).

Absences and Make-up Policy

In cases of school-sponsored activities or illness resulting in an absence by the student, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the missed class. Absences with advance notice are considered "excused." Students are responsible for and all work assigned during the absence. Absences without prior notification to the instructor ("unexcused") will

automatically result in forfeiture of any possible points associated with the missed class or performance.

Course Withdrawal/Petition for Incomplete Grade

On occasion, unforeseen circumstances may interfere with a student's ability to complete a course or to accomplish a satisfactory level of personal academic achievement. If you find yourself in this situation, I encourage you to visit with me to evaluate your options. Rarely is a grade unsalvageable if a student is willing to take the steps necessary to rectify it. If, however, a student is ever unable to fully devote his or her energies to the coursework, withdrawal may be the best option. Consult the college's academic calendar for the withdrawal deadline. Paperwork for withdrawals can be obtained from the Office of Records and Admissions.

A temporary grade of "I" or "incomplete" is available to students who cannot finish the course due to an emergency situation that arises late in the semester. The administration of an incomplete is at the instructor's discretion. Although I can be flexible depending on the circumstances of the student, my general policy is that the student should have at least 75% of the course completed and have a current grade of C or better at the time of the request for the incomplete grade. The incomplete portion of the course must be completed by the end of the semester following the request (summer sessions excluded) or the "I" will revert to an "F."

Northern Wyoming Community College District Policies

Academic Honesty Statement: Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic honesty means performing all academic work without lying, cheating, deceit, plagiarism, misrepresentation, or unfairly gaining advantage over any other student. Violations of academic honesty are in violation of District standards for student conduct and shall result in disciplinary action.

Institutional Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is expected of all students attending NWCCD so they may fully benefit from the educational experience. Students receiving financial aid must regularly attend class and actively participate in their coursework in order to earn their aid. Students failing to do so may be held liable for returning financial aid funds. Visit the Office of Financial Aid Services for more information.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class must contact the disabilities services coordinator on their campus as soon as possible to request such accommodations.

A complete list of official college policies can be found on the NWCCD website by pointing your browser to this shortcut: mcaf.ee/7018c