THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number   SD5622S
Date of Senate Approval   4/28/2022
- -
Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 51 (MUSC):   **Add new courses to the Music Technology curriculum:**
MUSC 160, Introduction to Music Technology
MUSC 300, Live Sound Practicum

Effective Date: Fall 2022

1.   **Add:**   On page 247, new course, **MUSC 160, Introduction to Music Technology:**

> **160   Introduction to Music Technology (2)**
> A survey of the theories, practices and tools used in digital audio production.
> Students develop the knowledge and skills to operate a digital audio workstation.
> Prerequisite: permission of the instructor. Fall.

2.   **Add:**   On page 248, new course, **MUSC 300, Live Sound Practicum:**

> **300   Live Sound Practicum (3)**
> Introduction to the current tools and practices involved in concert sound
> reinforcement. Students will gain hands-on experience through planning, setting up,
> and operating sound reinforcement systems for music department events.
> Prerequisite: MUSC 160 and permission of the instructor. Fall.

Impact Statement: Both of these new courses will be required for Music Technology majors. The proposed changes will not affect other degree programs outside of the Music Department at UNCA and will not conflict with any current offerings in the Music Department. These courses can be offered in the fall semester each year (two sections of Introduction to Music Technology and one section of Live Sound Practicum) without the need to hire any additional faculty. Two sections of Intro to Music Technology (MUSC 160) were offered this fall as special topics courses with capacities of 14 in each section based on the capacity of the lab-style room in which it was offered. The sections were enrolled to 12 and 13. Live Sound Practicum (MUSC 300) was offered in Fall 2021 as a special topics course and was enrolled to 9 out of 12. The capacity was determined by the lab-style nature of the course. MUSC 300, Live Sound Practicum has been offered at least 3 times over the past 5 years, while MUSC 160, Intro to Music Technology was offered once in Fall 2021

MUSC 160, Introduction to Music Technology
Learning objectives
- Describe the physical properties of sound and how they relate to the human perception of sound.
- Identify basic types of audio equipment and understand the connections needed for proper signal flow.
- Identify the parts of an audio mixing console and understand the basics of mixing.
- Explain the key concepts used in digital audio.
- Perform basic recording, editing, and mixing in a digital audio workstation.
- Perform MIDI sequencing and editing using virtual instruments in a digital audio workstation.

Logistics:
Two sections would be offered yearly in Fall semester, with 14 students per section. Each section would meet once a week for 1 hour and 40 minutes. Class meetings will consist of 70% lecture and 30% lab applications, utilizing existing computers and software in the keyboard lab (LIP 013). The faculty member teaching the course will be Carolina Perez. Jude Weinberg can also teach this course if necessary. Each section of Introduction to Music Technology will count as 2 contact hours for the instructor.

MUSC 300, Live Sound Practicum
Learning objectives
- Describe audio crew roles and functions for live music performances.
- Set up and operate audio equipment typical of live sound reinforcement.
- Create, read, and explain block diagrams of basic live sound systems.
- Demonstrate proficiency in console operation in a live sound setting.
- Troubleshoot problems in a live sound reinforcement system.
- Properly utilize different types of microphones in live sound reinforcement.
- Practice personal safety guidelines and proper care of equipment.

Logistics:
One section would be offered yearly in Fall semester, with a 10-student class size. Each section would meet once a week for 1 hour and 40 minutes. Class meetings will consist of 70% lab and 30% lecture, utilizing existing audio equipment in the Music Department. In addition to the 1 hour 40 minutes of class time, students are required to practice their live sound skills through attendance and participation at several live events throughout the semester. This requirement, which will account for an additional 50 minutes per week on average, accounts for the 3 credit hour designation for the course.The faculty member teaching the course will be Carolina Perez. Jude Weinberg can also teach this course if necessary.

Rationale: The new Introduction to Music Technology course is being proposed to give students a stronger foundation in the basic principles of sound and operation of a digital audio workstation prior to beginning their audio engineering and studio practicum courses. This will greatly benefit students who come to UNCA with less prior experience and prior access to recording tools by giving them an opportunity to learn important foundations and basics before beginning the core audio sequence of courses (Audio Engineering Technology I-IV and Recording Studio Practicum I-IV). Interested students that are pursuing other music degrees (BA/BFA) or majors at UNCA will be eligible to take this course, pending availability (Music Technology students will get first priority). This will fulfill a long-held goal in our department of making an introductory music technology course available to students beyond the music technology program. It was also designed to replace some of the information learned in PHYS 102 and 122 which are no longer being offered.

Live Sound is an essential knowledge and skill set for our graduates, many who work as live sound engineers for tours, companies, and venues. This class has been offered as a special topics course in recent years but has become an increasingly important part of our curriculum as live performances are fundamental to all of our music majors.