

MUSI2561: Creative Music Studio 3

Newcastle City Precinct

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course extends the fundamentals of music writing by examining music produced for given contexts, such as still or moving image, games, mobile apps and sound installations. Students will consider common forms of music composition/song writing in addition to more experimental processes in composition and production, invoking creativity and experimentation.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Assumed Knowledge	MUSI1562
Contact Hours	Newcastle City Precinct Lectorial Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 6 week(s) starting Week 1 Tutorial Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 6 week(s) starting Week 1 Workshop Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 6 week(s) starting Week 7
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Newcastle City Precinct A/Pr Jon Drummond Jon.Drummond@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: By Appointment
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composing and producing music for specific contexts• Influences on music composition and production• Experimental composers and works• Using production to develop new sounds• Experimental recording techniques• Creating music for visual media
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify music written for specific contexts2. Create a piece of music or sound design for a given context3. Complete an experimental music or sound recording4. Evaluate the creative aspects of their own composition

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Course Overview, Con/Studio Induction	Resources and Studio Tools Overview	
2	4 Mar	Physicality of Sound - Materials	Crafting Material Sounds in the Recording Studio	
3	11 Mar	Physicality of Sound - Movement	Crafting Sound Movement in the Recording Studio	
4	18 Mar	Sound in Space - Reverb, fieldwork, impulse response	Sound in Space - Reverb, fieldwork, impulse response	
5	25 Mar	Sound in Space - Convolution Processes	Sound in Space - Convolution Processes	
6	1 Apr	Analog Systems - DIY, Modular and hybrid systems	Analog Systems - DIY, Modular and hybrid systems	
7	8 Apr	Analog Systems - DIY, Modular and hybrid systems, cont.	Analog Systems - DIY, Modular and hybrid systems, cont.	Sound Recording Project 40% Week 7
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Multichannel Sound Methods	Multichannel Sound Methods	Project Proposal 20% Week 8
9	6 May	Multichannel Sound Methods, cont.	Multichannel Sound Methods, cont.	
10	13 May	Final Project special topics	Project Development	
11	20 May	Final Project special topics	Project Development	
12	27 May	WIP Presentation of Final Projects	WIP Presentation of Final Projects	WIP Presentation In Class Presentation and participation in peer feedback session required. Participation factored into Final Project grade.
13	3 Jun	Final Project Presentations	Final Project Presentations	Project Creative Work 40% Week 13
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Sound Recording Project	Week 7 Wednesday 10 April 5:00PM	Individual	40%	2, 3
2	Project Proposal	Week 8 Wednesday 1 May 5:00PM	Individual	20%	1, 2
3	Project Creative Work	Week 13 Wednesday 5 June 5:00PM	Group	40%	1, 2, 4

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Sound Recording Project 40%

Assessment Type	Artifact - Convolution Reverb
Description	<p>This task is a portfolio that includes creative and written responses to the course topics to date.</p> <p>The student will submit 3 sound sample packs in response to given prompts, and a 3-5 minute electroacoustic composition and written reflection that addresses a sound design topic relevant to the course lectures, tutorials, and readings. The 300-word written reflection should discuss the conceptual and compositional development and technical skills applied to the submitted audio materials. The reflection must also include images documenting the composition process. Images may include software and instrument configurations, performance workflows, recording location photos, or score samples and sketches.</p> <p>The student will be assessed on their comprehension of technical and musical concepts presented in class, the ability to apply those concepts towards creative outputs, and the ability to reflect and evaluate the creative aspects of their creative work. The series of studies will also serve to develop ideas and materials applied towards the final project (assessments 3).</p>
Weighting	40%
Length	3-5 minutes, 300 words, additional audio
Due Date	Week 7 Wednesday 10 April 5:00PM
Submission Method	Online Online via Canvas.
Assessment Criteria	See canvas for criteria and rubric.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 2 - Project Proposal 20%

Assessment Type	Proposal / Plan
Description	<p>The project proposal will describe the conceptual and aesthetic goals of the final project and the technological skills needed to realise the work. Images must be included, which may include score samples, audio software screenshots, visual stills, storyboards, or project workflows as applicable. The plan must include a timeline for project completion, and if working in a group, the plan must outline the roles of each group member. This is a work-in-progress, so there are expectations that the plan will evolve through the semester as new knowledge is acquired.</p> <p>The student will be expected to incorporate techniques and terminology discussed in class and course readings in addition to relevant artistic inspiration. Appropriate academic references to artists, concepts, and theories are expected. This assessment assesses the ability to identify music written for specific contexts and understand the components and process to create a piece of music or sound design for a given context.</p>
Weighting	20%
Length	750 words plus reference list
Due Date	Week 8 Wednesday 1 May 5:00PM
Submission Method	Online Online via Canvas.
Assessment Criteria	See canvas for criteria and rubric.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 3 - Project Creative Work 40%

Assessment Type	Project
Description	This task assesses the ability to produce, analyse, and present a creative work given the methods and concepts learned throughout the semester. The student will work in a group to create a 5-7 minute original work utilising sound design methods learned during the semester. This work may be a fixed media composition, live performance, installation, sound for visual media, or other coordinator-approved format that integrates electroacoustic sound design concepts. The student may use any instruments, tools, and/or software to realise the work. The structure and form are open to the student's preference. The genre must be approved by the coordinator. The students will apply studio and live production techniques learned to date to record, edit, mix, and produce the final product.
Weighting	40%
Length	5-7 minutes
Due Date	Week 13 Wednesday 5 June 5:00PM
Submission Method	Online Online via Canvas.
Assessment Criteria	See canvas for criteria and rubric.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

- Oral Interviews (Vivas)** As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).
- Academic Misconduct** All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35> .
- Adverse Circumstances** The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:
1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
 2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.
- Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>
- Important Policy Information** The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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