

MUSI2701: Studio Sessions

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 develops students' conceptual and technical skills within the studio environment. Through a combination of practical performance and studio production experiences the course enables opportunity for the development of original material and fosters critical observation and listening.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Assumed Knowledge	MUSI1705 and MUSI1731
Contact Hours	Newcastle City Precinct Lecture 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 Dr Martin Koszolko Martin.Koszolko@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Available to meet via Zoom, phone or in person (contact hours by arrangement)
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	Topics include (but are not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Studio workflow• Live vs studio performance• Sound capture and recording• Creative production techniques• Studio equipment selection and application• Studio-based performance techniques.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Analyse performances and identify techniques used to capture them2. Apply production techniques in the studio environment3. Work effectively in a team within a creative context4. Create a studio based creative work relevant to their area of study
Course Materials	Recommended Text: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Modern Recording Techniques by Huber and Runstein (8th edition or later) Other resources for the course will be provided on the Canvas website.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Course introduction, creative music production. Gain staging.	Developing music ideas from simple beginnings. Tour of studio spaces	
2	4 Mar	Being a self-producer, managing different roles, working with constraints	Intro to condenser and dynamic microphones	
3	11 Mar	Dimensions of mixing. Technical ear training	Creating and adapting material into new music	
4	18 Mar	Using reference tracks and critical listening	Piano recording and microphone placement practice	Assessment 1 due Thursday 21 March
5	25 Mar	Parameters of a good mix. Audio mastering	Recording exercises	
6	1 Apr	Processing audio with EQ and compression	Improving music through reflection, refinement, and production	
7	8 Apr	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Recording exercises	
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Drum kit recording	Assessment 2 due Thursday 2 May
9	6 May	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Workshop in assessment three groups	
10	13 May	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Workshop in assessment three groups	
11	20 May	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Workshop in assessment three groups	
12	27 May	Collaborating in the studio – small groups	Workshop in assessment three groups	
13	3 Jun	-	-	Assessment 3 due Wednesday 5 June
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	Creative Work Development and Analysis	21 March 2024 by 11:59 PM	Individual	25%	1, 2
2	Studio Production Demonstration	2 May 2024 by 11:59 PM	Individual	35%	2, 4
3	Creative Studio Recording Project	5 June 2024 by 11:59 PM	Group	40%	2, 3, 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 - Creative Work Development and Analysis

Assessment Type	Case Study / Problem Based Learning
Purpose	Creative work development and analysis
Description	Development of music demo ideas, gain stage focused mixing and critical analysis of own work in relation to existing practices.
Weighting	25%
Length	4 short demos (approx. 2 min each) + 700-word reflection
Due Date	21 March 2024 by 11:59 PM
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Refer to grading criteria in Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 2 - Studio Production Demonstration

Assessment Type	Practical Demonstration
Purpose	Development of creative, technical and aural skills in music production
Description	Production of an instrumental recording and demonstration of audio processing techniques
Weighting	35%
Length	Audio recordings (2 x 2min) + video report (3min)
Due Date	2 May 2024 by 11:59 PM
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Refer to grading criteria in Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 3 - Creative Studio Recording Project

Assessment Type	Project
Purpose	Collaborative music creation and recording
Description	Create a collaborative multi-track recording
Weighting	40%
Length	Final mix (3.5 - 5min), 3min video, written report (350-words)
Due Date	5 June 2024 by 11:59 PM
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Refer to grading criteria in Canvas
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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