

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: MUS175: Intro to Electronic Music **Date:** 8/28/2013

Course/Program Team: Daniel Webber

Expected Learning Outcomes

- I. The student will be able to articulately describe and discuss the various methods that electronic/digital technology is used in the creation, production, recording, and notating/printing of music.
- II. The student will be able to discuss the history of electronic/digital music and its related technology including: important technological developments, creative contributors, and significant compositions/recordings.
- III. The student will be able to create an original piece of electronic music of technically superior quality using a computer and software applications (DAW).

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome? Please attach a copy of your assessment electronically.)

- I. As part of the midterm and/or final exam, students will be assigned a specific method/technique of electronic music creation (e.g. analog sound synthesis, *musique concrete*). Students will then compose a detailed written response thoroughly describing the method/technique including the technology involved, important innovators, and resulting musical compositions/recordings when appropriate.
- II. As part of the midterm and/or final exam, students will be asked a series of questions the responses to which will require students to display a thorough knowledge of important historical developments within the field of electronic music as well as key figures and compositions/recordings.
- III. The final project for the course will be an original composition/recording by the student demonstrating a familiarity with electronic music creation and mastery of the standard DAW (Digital Audio Workstation).

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

I often meet with other music instructors on campus to discuss matters of assessment for MUS175. Additionally, I regularly research developments within the field and compare with my teaching content and methods to ensure that students in the MUS175 course are being presented with the most current information and techniques.

In the event that additional sections of MUS175 are added to the schedule and/or different instructors begin teaching the course, I will arrange for assessment norming session where all instructors of the course will compare assessment results to ensure we are calculating grades and collecting data in similar fashions.

Additionally, if and when the opportunity presents itself, I will seek to conference with instructors of similar courses at other community colleges for the same purpose of the norming sessions described above.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

- Assessment is regularly taking place and data is being collected and analyzed.
- The Fall 2013 data show that students are successfully meeting outcomes as follows:

Outcomes	Describe various methods of tech. used in music production		Discuss history of E.Music		Create an original piece of E.Music	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
FA13	8	0	7	1	8	0
FA14	7	0	6	1	7	1

- Assessments show that the course is generally meeting its expected outcomes very well. Students that struggle achieving the course outcomes typically do so as a result of chronic absences and not keeping up with assigned readings, etc.

- I have engaged in informal discussions with instructors of similar courses at FCC and Shepherd University and have found that the MUS175 curriculum is very similar in its scope to music technology courses taught at those institutions. Additionally, through these discussions I have learned a few new approaches to teaching some concepts such as audio analysis by utilizing free-download software.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

- I will be using the data I collect to identify areas of weakness, both of students learning and my teaching methods. If students consistently show weakness in a particular assessment area, I will tailor the course and my teaching method in order to address the identified weakness(es).

- Students tend to struggle with the history components of the course, I have restructured portions of the course to allow for more time on the history of electronic music.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

Additional music production software, quality recording microphones, and other basic studio equipment would provide more opportunities for students to explore sound recording and mixing.