



Beginning Digital Audio Production for Music Entrepreneurs MUCE 4060/5060

**Online Only via Canvas**

Instructor: Jessica Muñiz

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**Office Hours:** By Appointment (please contact me via email)

Room MU204 or via Zoom

**Zoom ID:** 545 725 2137 • **Passcode:** music123

**Overview:**

Students will learn concepts in building a recording studio business. Course also introduces concepts and techniques of music production using industry-standard DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) software.

**Required Materials:**

- Desktop Computer or Laptop and Headphones
- Digital Audio Workstation (only one is required): Apple Logic, ProTools, or Ableton
- Dittmar, Tim, *Audio Engineering 101 - A Beginner's Guide to Music Production*, Third Edition. Routledge, 2025. (ISBN: 978-1032553290)

**Online Resources:**

[LinkedIn Learning](#): sign in using your UNT ID to access content

**Recommended Podcasts:**

Bobby Owsinski's Inner Circle Podcast

The New Music Business with Ari Herstand

Your Morning Coffee Podcast

**Recommended Books (not required)**

All You Need To Know About The Music Business (Donald S. Passman)

**Required attendance to Music Business Departmental:**

Students enrolled in this class are required to attend departmental meetings on Wednesdays of each month from 11am-11:50am CST in the Recital Hall. This is a fine opportunity to introduce yourself and connect with music industry guest speakers and your peers. Students who cannot attend the departmental live must notify the instructor and are required to watch the video recording and complete a short writing assignment (5-7 key things that the guest speaker spoke on). Writing assignments must be turned in the last week of the course. Students attending in person do not need to complete a writing assignment.

**Required 1:1 meeting with your course instructor:**

Students enrolled in this class are required to schedule at least one meeting with your professor between weeks 4-5 of the course. Please email your instructor to schedule the 1:1 meeting.

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### **Required 1:1 meeting with your course instructor:**

Students enrolled in this class are required to schedule at least one meeting with your professor between weeks 4-5 of the course. Please email your instructor to schedule the 1:1 meeting.

### **Requesting Feedback:**

A primary objective of this course is to equip you with the necessary skills to thrive in a professional work environment. Effective communication is paramount in any such setting, whether you are an employer or an employee. It is essential for this point to be emphasized, as your instructor cannot anticipate the specific questions or concerns that each student may have. Your instructor is committed to supporting your learning journey and ensuring your success in this course. If you require feedback on an assignment or have inquiries regarding your grade, your instructor is more than happy to assist in Zoom sessions or in-person meetings. Your instructor maintains an approachable demeanor and is here to offer support. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them or wait until the near end of the course to request feedback.

### **Optional Zoom Check-In:**

Your instructor may hold an open zoom session where you can ask questions about course content. The check-ins will take place on select Wednesdays at 2:00pm CST (unless otherwise indicated). You are not required to attend these zoom sessions, but it is an opportune moment for you to connect with your instructor and your course peers. These zoom sessions will not be recorded. Students will be notified at least 24 hours in advance when Zoom check-ins will take place. You can still request an appointment to meet with your instructor if you are not able to attend the check-in.

### **GenAI:**

In this course, the use of GenAI tools is generally welcomed and even encouraged **when cited appropriately**, provided the final product reflects the student's creative input and decision-making (**i.e. do not copy and paste directly what the AI provides**).

### **Main Course Projects**

#### **Midterm DAW Project:**

Students will create a 1:30 min original track in their digital audio workstation (DAW). Details for creating the track in their DAW will be provided in Week 3: Module 3. This track will reflect the content you have learned during the first three weeks of the course. Students will also be required to create a screen sharing video of their DAW session playing the midterm project track.

#### **Final DAW Project:**

Students will be expected to create a 3:00-3:30 min original track in their digital audio workstation (DAW). Details for creating the DAW will be provided in Week 6: Module 6. This track will reflect the content you have learned during the first six weeks of the course. Students will also be required to create a screen sharing video of their DAW session playing the midterm project track.

#### **Music Production/Recording Studio Promotional One-Sheet:**

Students will create a music production or recording studio promotional one-sheet. This one-sheet is a single-page flyer that effectively captures attention and informs potential clients about your services. Details for creating the one-sheet will be provided in Week 5.

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**Grading**

Grading for this course is on a points scale:

**A= 900-1000pts, B= 840-899pts, C= 760-839pts, D= 680-759pts, F= 0-679pts**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Readings & Discussions                 | <b>150pts</b>  |
| DAW Assessments                        | <b>100pts</b>  |
| Midterm DAW Project                    | <b>200pts</b>  |
| Final Exam (written)                   | <b>200pts</b>  |
| Final DAW Project                      | <b>200pts</b>  |
| Recording Studio Promotional One-Sheet | <b>150pts</b>  |
| <b>Total:</b>                          | <b>1000pts</b> |

**Late Submissions**

Any assignment or presentation made after the required canvas due date/time will be considered late and will not receive full credit (**or any credit**). Grades of Incomplete (I) are only given during the last few weeks of the semester to students in the most select of circumstances (such as sudden illness or family emergency) to students who are passing in the course at that time. Please see me if you have questions.

**Course policy for attendance, participation, and absences**

Canvas discussion attendance and participation is mandatory and imperative in order for you to reap the full benefits of this class. This class is intended to prepare you for the professional workplace. Therefore, you must demonstrate diligence and a proactive attitude that positively reflects your work ethic--just like you would in a real work environment. It is your responsibility to complete all coursework and submitting it on time. If you have a legitimate emergency, please provide official verification to receive a deadline extension for coursework. Please note: If you submit coursework late more than two times, your grade will drop one full letter. This only applies to students who do not have prior permission from the instructor to submit coursework late. Students are also required to set up a zoom one-on-one meeting with the course instructor by weeks 4-5 of class.

**Spring Term Schedule 2026**

*\*Syllabus is subject to modification but not without notification\**

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|--|
| <p><b>Week 1:</b><br/>         Introduction to the DAW<br/>         What is sound?<br/>         History of Audio (chapter 10)<br/>         How to Listen</p> |
| <p><b>Week 2:</b><br/>         EQ Points of Interest: Frequencies Made Easy<br/>         Mixing Consoles</p>   |
| <p><b>Week 3:</b><br/>         Signal Flow<br/>         Microphone Guide and their Uses</p>  |

**Week 4:**  
Midterm DAW Project Due

**Week 5:**  
Signal Processors  
Studio Session Procedures  
Basic Acoustics  
Introduce: *Recording Studio Promotional One-Sheet*

**Week 6:**  
People Skills: Recording is not all technical  
Jobs: What can I do with these skills?  
Work on Recording Studio Promotional One-Sheet

**Week 7:**  
Work on Final DAW Project  
*Recording Studio Promotional One-Sheet Due*

**Week 8:**  
**Final DAW Project Due**  
*Complete Final Exam (written)*

## UNT Resources and Policies

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

### STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

### ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: [eagleconnect.unt.edu/](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/)

#### ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu). (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

#### Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

#### Registration Information for Students

See: [Spring Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

#### Semester Calendar, Spring 2026

See: [Spring Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/sites/default/files/spring-2026-academic-calendar.pdf>

#### Final Exam Schedule, Spring 2026

See above

#### Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

##### Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

##### Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

#### RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link:<http://ferpa.unt.edu/>

#### COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

#### ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-academic-calendar.html>

#### STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

#### CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

#### DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator
- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side

- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)