

## MRTS 4210 - Advanced Audio Production

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Instructor: Omar Milano

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Classroom: Room 180F

Class Time: Thursdays 18:00 - 20:50

Office Hours: Thursdays 21:00 - 22:00

Textbook: [Location Sound Bible](#) by Ric Viers

### COURSE OBJECTIVE

The objective of this course is to give you a strong foundation in location sound recording for TV and film. The class offers you full hands-on training using industry standard pro-audio equipment, in order to acquire the required skills to capture clean, consistent, intelligible dialogue and sounds during production. Learning the techniques of location sound mixing and recording will not only prepare you to work on a variety of projects, they will also enhance your overall skills as future filmmakers.

### ATTENDANCE

Since we only meet once a week, attendance is very important and unexcused absences will affect your grade. Each session will cover topics that build up to the next class meeting; therefore, you are responsible to catch up and review the material covered during an absence. You will be allowed one (1) free unexcused absence. After that, (2) points **for each** unexcused absence will be deducted from your **final grade**. In addition, if you arrive on time but you decide to leave early without notifying me, you will be marked absent on that day.

### REQUIREMENTS

You will need a set of over-the-ear headphones. Ear buds are not appropriate to professionally monitor sound. If you wish to invest in a good pair, the [Sony MDR-7506](#) headphones are considered the industry standard and they will endure years of abuse.

You will also need a flash drive or an external hard drive to save your project files. Last but not least, acquire the required textbook.

### TECH SUPPORT

During the term, you will use the Sound Devices 833 Mixer/Recorder to record all of your audio files, and also learn the advanced features that are used during professional productions. If at any time, you need help troubleshooting an issue while using the 833, do not hesitate to contact Sound Devices during working hours at (800) 505-0625. The same assistance applies when using the Lectrosonics Wireless Systems, and they can be reached at (800) 821-1121. Both companies offer **outstanding** technical support of their products.

### GRADING CRITERIA

Your final grade will be determined by the average score of three projects, a mid-term knowledge check, a team evaluation, a final exam, and your attendance. Please read the criteria **carefully**, to avoid confusion and surprises when grades are posted.

You will team up with a classmate to work on your projects. You will work together as a sound team, assisting and complementing each other when needed. However, each student is **required** to demonstrate equal effort, commitment, and knowledge when completing projects and evaluations. One student alone will not carry the weight for the team. Five (5) points will be deducted from your grade for **every day** a project is late.

**No excuses or exceptions!**

Grading will be as follows:

3 Short Projects	avg. of your 3 grades X .2 =	
Mid-Term Knowledge Check	your grade X .2 =	
Sync-Sound Evaluation	your grade X .3 =	
Final Exam	your grade X .3 =	
Attendance	unexcused absences, if any	
FINAL GRADE		

## SYLLABUS POLICY

This syllabus outlines the guidelines and expectations for successful completion of the course. However, I may have to alter some activities and dates as needed.

## DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

The Department of Media Arts cooperates with the [UNT Office of Disability Accommodation \(ODA\)](#) in order to make reasonable accommodations for students. If you are in need of an accommodation, contact ODA at (940) 565-4323. Please, present your written Accommodation Requests to me within the first two weeks of class.

## SEMESTER EVALUATIONS

Students should complete the Student Perceptions of Teaching Evaluation (SPOT). This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class was taught. Feedback from students is very important to the Department of Media Arts and to the Professor, and this evaluation is considered a part of your participation in this class.

## MOBILE DEVICE POLICY

The Department of Media Arts prohibits the use of personal mobile devices during class. You may use a laptop or tablet for taking notes, or to look up information for this class. These devices are **not** to be used for reading e-mail, reviewing/updating social media sites, or texting while in class. If you expect an important phone call or text message, respectfully leave and handle your business outside of the classroom.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class is unacceptable, disruptive, and it will not be tolerated. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom, and the instructor will refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities for violating the Code of Student Conduct. This course adheres to the standards outlined in the [University of North Texas Policy Office](#).

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Date	Activity	Assignments
Aug 21	Discuss Course Objectives - Assign Teams Ch. 1 - What is Location Sound Ch. 2 - Sound Basics Ch. 3 - Microphone Basics Ch. 4 - Microphones for Location Sound	Read Ch. 21, and 1-4
Aug 28	Ch. 10 - Signal Flow Ch. 13 - Mixers Ch. 11 - Recorders	Read Ch. 10,13,11 & 5
Sep 4	Ch. 5 - Booming Techniques Interior and Exterior Demo	Project 1 Read Ch. 7
Sep 11	<b>Project 1 Due</b> Ch. 7 - Wireless Systems Lectrosonics LMB/LR (Day 1)	
Sep 18	Ch. 7 - Wireless Systems Lectrosonics LMB/LR (Day 2) - Comtek FPM-216 Zaxcom VRX - Sennheiser G2	Read Ch. 6
Sep 25	Ch. 6 - Lav Techniques Lav Accessories and Wiring Talent Demo	Project 2
Oct 2	<b>Project 2 Due</b> Intro to Multi-Wiring and Automixer Demo	
Oct 9	<b>Mid-Term Knowledge Check</b> Single-System Mixing and Recording	Read Ch. 12
Oct 16	Ch. 12 - Sync Intro to TC Syncing	
Oct 23	Sync-Sound Recording - Day 1 Pre-Prod Logistics	
Oct 30	Sync-Sound Recording - Day 2 Interior - Single and Multi-Cam Demo	
Nov 6	Sync-Sound Recording - Day 3 Exterior - Sound Cart Set-up	Project 3 Read Ch. 20
Nov 13	<b>Project 3 Due</b> The Business of Show Biz	
Nov 20	Sync-Sound Evaluations	
Nov 27	<b>THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS</b>	
Dec 4	S-S Screenings - Review for Final	
Dec 11	<b>Final Exam</b>	