MUST 3341 – Intro to the Recording Studio – FALL 2017

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Course Description: Survey of the history and development of the modern recording studio and modern recording technologies. This survey will have 3 key areas of focus: (1) Recording studios of historical importance (2) People who greatly influenced the development of sound recording and/or recording technology (3) Creation and development of specific recording technologies and the hardware (& software) commonly associated with them and utilized in the recording studio of today.

Primary Study Material: Will be given in class. All students must keep an organized notebook containing class notes and all handouts. Your text will be created as the class progresses.

Class Schedule:

Week 1: Overview, Historical Background – Acoustic Era Recording – Studio Basics.


Week 3: Modern Studio Era, pt 1. – Stereophonic sound – Analog Tape Systems, pt. 1

Week 4: Mixing Consoles, pt. 1 – Analog Tape Systems, pt. 2 – Overdub technology.

Week 5: Modern Studio Era, pt. 2 – Mixing Consoles, pt. 2 – Test 1 given.

Week 6: Mixing consoles, pt 3 – Microphone applications – The Record Producer, pt. 1


Week 8: Digital Technologies, pt. 1 (Basic overview) – The Record Producer, pt. 2


Week 10: The Digital Mixing Console – Hard Disk Recorders. – Test 2 given

Week 11: Modern Studio Era, pt. 5 – Computer-based recording, pt. 1

Week 12: Computer-based recording, pt. 2.
Week 13: Computer-based recording, pt. 3.

Week 14/15: Class summation & Class Presentations – Test 3 given.

Projects:
1) Analog Tape & Mixing console – recording and splicing – Microphone tests.
2) Live Recording Techniques – UTEP Recital Hall recording booth – attend & assist.
3) Research project – written paper (in-class presentations for extra credit).
4) Digital Mixing – basic ProTools concepts.
** details on all of these will be given as semester progresses.

Grading: final grade will be determined by the results of 3 Tests (30%), 4 major Projects (40%), weekly quizzes (20%), and attendance/participation (10%).

** Attendance is mandatory and will be taken during the semester. More than two unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade.

** The class will be taking 3 “field trips” to visit and observe working recording studios in the El Paso area. Dates and times will be announced in class. These trips are essential for a real understanding of the recording studio environment. Each student must be present for 2 out of 3 of these trips. Every effort will be made to schedule according to the needs of the majority of the class participants. Attendance is not optional – failure to do so will result in the lowering of the final grade.