

COM 473: Audio Design & Production
Fall 2014
Syllabus

Contact

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office hours: [make an appointment here](#)

Course Description

Students in this course will explore various aspects of analyzing and producing sound, particularly in digital environments. Topics in the class will include field recording, audio editing tools and techniques, audio documentaries, sound design in film and games, podcasting, and the rhetorical effects of sound. Students will create a range of sound-based works, from a collaborative podcasting series to community-based audio documentaries.

Required Texts

Sound: Documents of Contemporary Art. Ed. Caleb Kelly.
ISBN: 0262515687

Other listening/reading assignments provided via hyperlink on course calendar.

Course Objectives

In this course, you will:::

- better understand the technical, material, and political aspects of sound and audio;
- learn and perform genres of audio production, including podcasts, documentaries, and audio essays;
- learn and perform various audio-based tools and techniques including analog and digital field recording, microphone use, mixing and mastering, digital publishing, interviewing, remix, etc.

- compose critical and rhetorical sonic texts.

Inclusivity +& Collaboration

This course is a collaborative space, both in terms of exploring what sound means and how we work with sound as well as the execution and evaluation of major projects. Because we are a group of people with different identities, beliefs, goals, backgrounds, etc., we must be mindful and considerate of one another in speech, action, and interaction. If you encounter any problems in this course, including classroom interactions and group projects, contact me as soon as possible.

Course Requirements

Class Performance [10%]

Unit One Audio Essay/Exam [15%]

Podcast Series [25%]

Audio Documentary [50%]

Grading, Deadline, and Revision Policies

A: 100-94%

A-: 90-93% "A" work exceeds basic assignment criteria in several ways.

B+: 87-89%

B: 84-86% "B" work meets and exceeds basic assignment criteria

B-: 80-83%

C+: 77-79%

C: 74-76% "C" work meets basic assignment criteria.

C-: 70-73%

D+: 67-69%

D: 64-66% "D" work fails to meet one or more basic assignment

D-: 60-63% criteria.

F: 0-59% "F" work is incomplete, not received, or fails to meet any basic assignment criteria.

Deadlines must be met in order to receive credit for your work. Life happens, however, and if you require extra time to complete your project, contact me prior to the assignment deadline if you would like to earn partial credit.

I encourage you to **revise** your work based on feedback and evaluation. If you do opt to revise, you may earn up to one letter grade improvement on your project. Refer to the schedule for revision deadlines.

University Policies

Academic Honesty: Please familiarize yourself with the [University's Academic Honesty Policy](#).

Disability Support: In accordance with state and federal laws, the University will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. For those who have or think that you may have a disability requiring an accommodation (learning, physical, psychological) should contact Services for Students with Disabilities, Room G10, Bellarmine, 610-660-1774 (voice) or 610-660-1620 (TTY) as early as possible in the semester for additional information and so that an accommodation, if appropriate, can be made in a timely manner. You will be required to provide current (within 3 years) documentation of the disability.

For a more detailed explanation of the University's accommodation process, as well as the programs and services offered to students with disabilities, please see the [Student Resources Page](#). If you have any difficulty accessing the information on-line, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities at the telephone numbers above.

