

**POST 324 – SOUND MIXING I  
SYLLABUS – WINTER 2022**

**Meeting Times:** Tuesdays 5:45-9:00 PM

**Location:** CDM 526

**Instructor:** Jeff Kliment [jklimen2@depaul.edu](mailto:jklimen2@depaul.edu)

**GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Description**

This workshop based course focuses on re-recording mixing for cinema using the stereo sound field. Subjects include mixing philosophies, techniques, advanced digital signal processing, and monitoring. A history of sound mixing will be covered. Several projects will be completed throughout the quarter.

**Prerequisite: POST 224**

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of POST 324, students will be able to:

- Mix the audio for film clips in stereo.
- Automate digital signal processes.
- Utilize basic routing techniques in a digital audio workstation.
- Listen and identify deficiencies in a mix through various outputs.
- Encode audio for basic delivery of the final mix.

**Recommended Readings**

- Readings and related videos are available on D2L.

**Materials**

- A portable hard drive with **at least** 100GB free space - USB **3.0** (not 2.0), or Thunderbolt (preferably 7200 RPM ) is recommended.

**Assignments and Grading**

- Film Soundtrack Analysis           15%
- Stereo Music Mix                    20%
- Film Mix 1                            25%
- Conforming Exercise               10%
- Film Mix 2                            30%

**Project/File Naming Conventions**

YYMMDD-FirstInitialLastName-ProjectName. (Example: 220118-JKliment-MusicMix). Incorrect naming will result in a 1-point reduction in the project grade.

**SCA Support**

DePaul has an information portal in D2L that looks like a course. If you have any DePaul SCA related questions, the information is available there.

If you have any technical issues regarding hardware or software please email: [scaavsupport@depaul.edu](mailto:scaavsupport@depaul.edu)

To access the SCA Knowledgebase, please click here: <https://depaulscaavsupport.groovehq.com/help>

## Attendance and Participation

- Attendance is one of the key indicators of student success; therefore everyone is expected to attend each class meeting and to remain for the entire period. Your contribution matters. By arriving punctually each week and actively participating in class activities you are helping yourself and your colleagues. Please stay focused and refrain from distracting others and/or using electronic devices for non-class activities.

## Late Work Policy

- Work can be turned in for full credit before 11:59 PM on the due date (excluding class presentations, see below).
- Score will be reduced by 10% for each day late, for the next three calendar days only.
- Late work after three calendar days will earn zero points.
- If a student presents supporting documentation for an excused absence, the assignment will be due by 11:59 PM on the day of their return. After that, the student will receive zero points.
- If a student discusses a personal issue with the instructor in advance, a new due date may be agreed upon at the instructor's discretion.
- Class presentations will be due at the scheduled time of the presentation.

## Grading Scale

A	93-100	Excellent work, shows fine attention to detail
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Above average work, shows solid effort
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Satisfactory, meets expectations but needs refinement
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Below average work, does not meet all requirements
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work is unfinished and/or does not demonstrate understanding of objectives

## COURSE CALENDAR

### Class 1 – January 4

Intro to course

Listening and hearing

Critique and evaluation – objective and subjective

What is mixing?

Digital audio and Pro Tools refresher

- **Recommended reading:**
  - Adobe Digital Audio Primer – in Useful Documents module
  - Digital Audio Basics – various articles in Useful Links module
- **Assignment: Film Soundtrack Analysis Project – Due Class 3**

### Class 2 – January 11

Loudness, metering, and monitoring

Pro Tools and workflows

Inserts, sends and returns

Plug-ins and processing

Using templates

- **Assignment: Stereo Music Mix – Due Class 5**
- **Recommended reading:**
  - Home Studio and Listening Environment – various articles in Useful Links module
  - Sound Levels and Metering – various articles in Useful Links module

### Class 3 – January 18

#### **DUE TODAY: Soundtrack Analysis Paper**

Playbacks in class

- **Assignment: Film Mix 1 – Due Class 7**
- **Recommended reading:**
  - Compression Terminology handout – in Useful Documents module
  - EQ Terminology handout – in Useful Documents module

### Class 4 – January 25

Plug-ins and processing (continued)

Compression and equalization in depth

### Class 5 – February 1

#### **DUE TODAY: Stereo Music Mix**

Discuss research and screen examples

Conforming to picture edits

- **Assignment: Conforming Exercise - Due Class 6**

### Class 6 – February 8

#### **DUE TODAY: Conforming Exercise**

Introduction to automation

Advanced editing techniques

### Class 7 – February 15

#### **DUE TODAY: Film Mix 1**

Critiques in class

- **Assignment: Film Mix 2 – Due Class 11**

### Class 8 – February 22

Control surfaces

Advanced mixing techniques

- **Recommended reading/viewing:**
  - Film Sound articles and videos in Useful Links module

### Class 9 – March 1

Asset creation and delivery specifications

Loudness and metering reviewed

### Class 10 – March 8

**Film Mix 2 Screening and critiques in class**

### Class 11 – March 15

**DUE TODAY: FILM MIX 2 – FINAL VERSIONS SCREENED IN CLASS**

## **DEPAUL AND CDM POLICIES**

### **Syllabus Errors and Changes**

If you find any errors on the syllabus or contradictions between the syllabus and D2L, please notify me immediately. If you find anything confusing on the syllabus, please let me know. Also, the course calendar is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

### **COVID-19 Updates and Guidance**

<https://resources.depaul.edu/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>

### **COVID-19 Reporting Protocol**

<https://resources.depaul.edu/coronavirus/resources/covid-19-reporting-protocol/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns**

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at <http://policies.depaul.edu/policy/policy.aspx?pid=332>

### **Civil Discourse**

DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be Socially Responsible Leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues.

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

### **Academic Policies**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: [cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

### **Incomplete Grades**

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. CDM policy requires the student to initiate the request for incomplete grade before the end of the term in which the course is taken. Prior to submitting the incomplete request, the student must discuss the circumstances with the instructor. Students may initiate the incomplete request process in MyCDM.

- All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval.
- If approved, students are required to complete all remaining course requirement independently in consultation with the instructor by the deadline indicated on the incomplete request form.
- By default, an incomplete grade will automatically change to a grade of F after two quarters have elapsed (excluding summer) unless another grade is recorded by the instructor.
- An incomplete grade does NOT grant the student permission to attend the same course in a future quarter.

**Resources for students with disabilities**

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) by emailing [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu) and/or visiting one of the locations below.

<p><b>Loop Campus</b>          Lewis Center Suite 1420          25 East Jackson Blvd          phone: (312) 362-8002          fax: (312) 362-6544          tty: (773) 325-7296</p>	<p><b>Lincoln Park Campus</b>          Student Center, Suite #370          2250 N Sheffield Ave          phone: (773) 325-1677          fax: (773) 325-3720          tty: (773) 325-7296</p>
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**Online Course Evaluations**

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student’s identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in Campus Connect.