COURSE SYLLABUS

CAMOSUN COLLEGE

COURSE TITLE: MTEC-214 Virtual & Software Instruments

CLASS SECTION: DX01

TERM: Winter 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 2

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Distance Learning

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.
Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Thilo Schaller

EMAIL: thiloschaller@gmail.com

OFFICE: N/A

HOURS: Arranged By Appointment Online

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

In this course, students learn to harness cutting-edge digital instrumentation software to simulate acoustic performance with digital sequenced music. Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) technologies and software will be explored.

PREREQUISITE(S):
All of:
• C in MTEC 212

CO-REQUISITE(S):
Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):
Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Simulate acoustic performance of music using software instruments in such a way that a practitioner of acoustic instruments would accept the virtual performance as representative of acoustic capabilities and expression.
2. Produce moderately complex musical examples for digital performance through essential virtual and software instruments.
3. Arrange a moderately complex musical example for alternate instruments and render the example for digital performance to indicate understanding of appropriate instrumental use in non-traditional musical settings.
4. Create and capture unique virtual and software instruments or sounds, and employ a selection of these in an original digital performance.
5. Discuss the attributes of a variety of virtual and software instruments in their application to professional and academic settings.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

TEXTS: D2L contains all course texts or provides links to sites with relevant materials.

OTHER: Computer (Mac or PC), Audio/MIDI interface, MIDI/USB keyboard controller, loudspeakers or headphones, Reaper or other DAW (software), Vienna Symphonic Library Special Edition Volume 1 (incl. Vienna or Steinberg Key) or equivalent orchestral sample library (please contact your instructor to check whether your chosen sample library meets the requirements for this course).

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

DATES: 14 Weeks, January 9 - April 15.

CLASS LOCATION: Distance Learning, the Camosun College Desire2Learn online platform.

CLASS MEETING TIMES: Distance Learning, self-paced weekly or biweekly Modules.

This course is completely delivered online through D2L. New modules will be made available on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. The modules contain text, videos, and assignments which have to be completed before accessing the next module.

Deadlines: You are expected to complete each module by the specified due date and submit the assignments by the stated deadline in order to receive full credit. Late submissions will be accepted with a late penalty. Please try to submit all assignments on time as the assignments progress in complexity and build upon each other. If you have any questions or problems with any of the assignments, please contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the CAL exams page. http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Assignments (80%): Assignments are designed to help you learn how to work with software instruments. In order to pass the course, every assignment has to be submitted within the provided timeframe. This course contains 8 practical assignments. Each assignment is worth 10% of the final grade. Grading Criteria: o Full marks (10%): submitted on time, assignment submission goes beyond the expectations described in the assignment document by displaying additional creative use of the applied techniques o 9%: submitted on time, assignment fulfills the expectations described in the assignment document o 8%: submitted on time, assignment submission fulfills some of the expectations described in the assignment document o 7%: submitted within two weeks after the submission deadline, assignment fulfills the expectations described in the assignment o 6%: submitted within two weeks after the submission deadline and fulfills some of the expectations described in the assignment document o 5%: submitted later than two weeks after the submission deadline and fulfills the expectations described in the assignment document o 0%: not submitted or failing to show that technical concepts are applied effectively	80%
Final Project (20%): The course cumulates in a final project in which you will apply the knowledge and skills you have acquired and developed throughout the course. The final project is worth 20% of the final grade. Grading Criteria: o Full marks (20%): submitted on time, final project submission shows creative use of software instruments as covered throughout the course to create a musically and technically convincing work o Marks will be subtracted for: ▪ Late submission (4% per day) ▪ Insufficient length ▪ Failing to show that technical concepts of the course have been understood and applied effectively to the creation of the final project	20%
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the Grade Review and Appeals policy for more information. http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

A. The average amount of time spent working on materials for this course is 2 hours per week. The weekly schedule in the Course Schedule section, above, outlines the weekly/biweekly modules of content that are to be completed in order. For each week of the term, topics and assessment due dates are provided.

B. In order to receive full credit for each of the graded assessments, you must submit them by their respective due dates and times. In the event you do not meet a submission deadline and you have not been given an extension (see Part D below), I will accept your late work with a penalty. Points will be deducted as described in the evaluation section of this course syllabus. Please do your best to submit your work as soon as you have completed it, even if the deadline has passed.

C. Missing class for holidays or illness is not a concern for this online course. You may, however, experience illness that prevents you from meeting a submission deadline. In this case, if you wish to receive an extension, you must promptly forward documentation to the instructor from a doctor (or certified healthcare professional), preferably before the deadline passes. This documentation is required to include a clear statement from your doctor of WHAT you could not do and WHEN you could not do it (e.g., "Student was bedridden from October 5-7," or "Student will not be able to use right hand for two weeks, October 1-15"). It is not necessary to disclose the reason for your illness. Upon approval of your doctor's note, accommodations within reason will be made to help you complete missed work.

Note: **It is your responsibility to be aware of assessment deadlines and to pace your weekly progress so that you are able to meet these deadlines.**

D. Should problems or difficulties with the course materials arise, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. Suggestions for extra help customized to your specific needs will be provided.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL: Camosun Arts and Science

DEPARTMENT: Music (Victoria Conservatory of Music)

Through its partnership with the Victoria Conservatory of Music, Camosun offers three music programs in classical and contemporary disciplines, with courses at the foundational level, in music technologies, and in music performance.

All Music Program students are registered Camosun College students entitled to receive all services – including but not limited to academic and personal support – as provided by both Camosun College and the Victoria Conservatory of Music. Music Program students are bound by all policies – including but not limited to academic, administrative, and personal conduct policies – of both Camosun College and the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit http://camosun.ca/students/.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started: http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/

Academic Integrity

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines.

Grading Policy

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html) and the Grading Policy at http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit

http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.