

School of Arts & Science MUSIC DEPARTMENT MTEC 214 Virtual and Software Instruments Fall 2017

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online at http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/musc.html

* Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.

It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.

You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Jonathan Haek
(b)	Office Hours:	N/A (Course is by Distance Learning online only)
(c)	Location:	N/A
(d)	Phone Number:	N/A (Please use e-mail)
(e)	E-mail:	jonathan.haek23@online.camosun.ca
(f)	Website:	https://online.camosun.ca/ (Login to D2L for access)

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course a 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 capability 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.

3. Required Materials

(a) **Textbook:** None. All readings provided on course website (see Section 1f above).

(b) **Hardware:** As specified on the course website: Laptop or desktop computer (not Chromebook), speakers or headphones, MIDI keyboard and/or synthesizer, other equipment such as microphone or audio interface (if necessary).

(c) **Software:** As specified on the course website: REAPER, Reason Essentials, Garritan Personal Orchestra or Kontakt 5 or other virtual instrument collection, Blue Cat Audio Plug-ins, and LAME encoder.

(d) **Other:** Internet access to the course website on D2L. Administrative permissions to install software on the computer being used for the course.

See Section 7, Recommended Materials, below for supplementary course resources.

4. Course Content and Schedule

Dates: 14 Weeks, September 5 - December 10. Plus, December 11-19 for final project submission.

Class Location: Distance Learning, the Camosun College Desire2Learn online platform.

Class Meeting Times: Distance Learning, self-paced weekly or biweekly Modules.

Holidays: Week 6, Monday, October 9: Thanksgiving Day. Week 11, Monday, November 13: Remembrance Day (observed).

- (a) The average amount of time spent working on materials for this course is 2 hours per week. The weekly schedule on Page 5, below, 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) Section 5, below, outlines the basis of student assessment. The participation portion of your grade consists of class discussions and online self assessment quizzes. The projects portion of your grade consists of more substantial course projects. Assessments within each category (participation and projects) are weighted equally.
- (c) 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 Section 4d below), I will accept your late work with penalty. Points will be deducted for each day an assignment is late (2 per day, up to a maximum of 40 deducted). Please do your best to submit your work as soon as you have completed it, even if the deadline has passed.

4. Course Content and Schedule (Continued)

(d) If you experience illness that prevents you from attending class or meeting a submission deadline, or you would like to receive an extension, your absence must be excused AND you must give notice PRIOR to the class or to the deadline. Absences may be excused for illness or emergency when appropriate documentation is promptly forwarded to the instructor from a doctor (or certified healthcare professional). Camosun College requires that this documentation 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, November 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.

5. Basis of Student Assessment

(a) **Projects:** Reproduction, Arrangement, Composition 75% of course mark

(b) Participation: Discussions, Self Assessments 25% of course mark

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	В-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

6. Grading System (Continued)

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description	
I	<i>Incomplete</i> : A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.	
IP	<i>In progress</i> : A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)	
CW	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.	

7. Recommended Materials and Services

- (a) **Optional Hardware:** As specified on the course website: Portable recording device.
- (b) **Optional Software:** As specified on the course website: QuickTime Player, iTunes, GarageBand (for Mac users only), and other DAW software and virtual instrument collections.
- (c) 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.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, at Student Services, or at the College web site.

http://camosun.ca
http://camosun.ca/services

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf

Weekly Schedule:

The following schedule provides an outline of weekly progress through the course Modules. Due dates for the assessments will be announced online. <u>Important Note</u>: Weeks in MTEC 214 will begin on <u>Mondays at 12:00 AM</u>, and end on <u>Sundays at 11:59 PM</u>, with the exception of the first week which begins on Tuesday.

Weeks 1-2: Sept. 5-17 Course Orientation Module.

Software Installation

Discussion: Your Hardware Setup **Module 1**. MIDI Sequencing Review. (Holiday: Monday the 4th is Labour Day)

Weeks 3-4: Sept. 18-Oct. 1 Module 2. Virtual Instrument Collections.

Self Assessment

(Holiday: Monday the 9th is Thanksgiving Day)

Weeks 5-6: Oct. 2-15 **Module 3**. Musicality and Passing as Acoustic.

Project 1 Due [Sunday, October 29, 11:59 PM]

Weeks 7-8: Oct. 16-29 Module 4. Connecting with ReWire.

Self Assessment

Weeks 9-10: Oct. 30-Nov. 12 Module 5. Virtual Instrument Customization.

Project 2 Due [Sunday, November 19, 11:59 PM]

Weeks 11-12: Nov. 13-26 Module 6. Basic Synthesis Techniques.

(Holiday: Monday the 13th is Remembrance Day)

Weeks 13-14: Nov. 27-Dec. 10 Individual Lessons.

Rough Draft of Project 3 (Final) Due [Sunday, December 3, 11:59 PM]

Project 3 (Final). Original Composition

Final Project Period: December 11-19. All final submissions due Tue., Dec. 19, 11:59 PM.