Prifysgol Wrecsam
Wrexham University

Module specification

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Module Code	CMT403
Module Title	Live Sound
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FACE
HECoS Code	100443 Media production
Cost Code	GACT
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
BA (Hons) Music and Sound Production	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	36 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	0 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	164 hrs

Module aims

The content of this module is an introduction to live sound production as applied to the touring and installation sound system professional. The theory concentrates on the design and operation of medium to large-scale public address systems. It develops the student's appreciation of the key elements that are required in a high quality sound system and furnishes them with the required skills to play an active part in a live sound company or production team.

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Appraise the environmental factors that limit the effectiveness of available technology.
2	Design and specify technological solutions for a variety of sound reinforcement applications.
3	Work as a team member on a live sound event and understand the roles of the associated team members.
4	Apply the procedures and techniques for producing and engineering live events to a professional technical and creative standard.

Assessment

The student will conceive and design a sound system for a given application. The design will cover all aspects of the application from the supply of the components to any health and safety considerations.

The student will work as part of a small team that will build and operate a medium scale public address system. This will be assessed through a practical timed test of installing a live sound rig that needs to be fit for the given technical specification. The timing will be comparable to that expected in an industrial situation.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	L1, 2 and 4	Dissertation/Project	Equivalent 1500 words	70%	N/A
2	L3	In-class test	30 mins	30%	N/A

Derogations

N/A

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The Active Learning framework (ALF) embraces accessible, engaging and flexible approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in order that students are afforded the very best opportunities to engage actively with their learning.

Flexible, innovative, relevant and accessible assessment and feedback practices that optimise student engagement and achievement within a healthy learning environment;

An approach to research informed-teaching that champions active and engaged inquiry and curiosity through useful, active, applied research and scholarship.

The module will be presented as a series of lectures linked to practical sessions with the associated equipment.

Seminars will be conducted to explore the applied use of the technology.

Group collaboration will be encouraged to emphasise the importance of teamwork within the live sound industry.

Welsh Elements

In collaboration with the Welsh Language Team at Wrexham University, it is planned that key terms in the degree programme and certain topic areas will be available in Welsh – whether through workshop sessions, or audio and video material, with potential expansion of such capacity.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Live systems in context
- Health and safety
- System topography
- Live mixing consoles
- Graphic equalisation
- Crossovers and loudspeaker system control
- Low frequency transducers
- High frequency transducers
- Line Array
- Computer modelling and control
- System calibration and optimisation
- System measurement utilising Software

Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads:

Gibson, B. (2020). The ultimate live sound operators handbook . Hal Leonard Books.

Additional reading

Davis, G. Jones R, (1990). Sound Reinforcement Handbook. Hal Leonard Corp.
Davis, D. & Patronis, E, (2006). Sound System Engineering. Focal Press.
Eargle, J. & Foreman, C. (2008). Jbl Audio Engineering for Sound Reinforcement . Kendrick Books.
Stark, S (2002). Live Sound Reinforcement; Hal Leonard Corp.
Audio Engineering Society – Journal and e-Library http://www.aes.org

Administrative Information

For office use only	
Initial approval date	September 2019
With effect from date	September 2026
Date and details of revision	Revalidated 06/08/2025, updated template
Version number	3