

Module specification

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Module code	CMT435
Module title	Introduction to Audio Skills
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FAST
Module Leader	M.Wright
HECoS Code	100222
Cost Code	GACT

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BSc(Hons) Music and Sound Technology. BSc(Hons) Television Production and Technology. BSc(Hons) Professional Sound and Video. BA (Hons) Media Production.	Core

Pre-requisites

N/A

Breakdown of module hours

Type of Module hours	Amount
Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	164 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	September 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	

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Version number	1

Module aims

The module is an introduction to sound production, manipulation and editing for media practitioners; musicians; prospective sound and media engineers and installation artists. The course focuses on the implementation of sound systems in small to medium scale installations, and the techniques involved in studio-based audio production. It introduces the student to the key elements that are required to provide high quality sound and furnishes them with the required skills to set up and use digital and analogue sound equipment effectively.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Display understanding of the key elements in the audio chain and to implement said connections.
2	Evaluate the impact of audio processing on the signal path and how this affects the quality and performance.
3	Apply safe working practices within the audio environment to enable sound system operation.
4	Evaluate different approaches to recording sound sources and apply techniques and equipment that are appropriate to each circumstance.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Students will be assessed on the application and understanding of audio systems and production workflows within a production environment.

The assessment comprises of portfolio elements.

Students will produce an electronic portfolio in the form of a blog that is posted on a weekly basis and multiple choice quiz testing a student's knowledge of audio-production concepts and apparatus. The blog will demonstrate the knowledge attained in lectures and apply the knowledge to practical recording tasks to create artefacts supporting the dialogue of the posts.

In the simulation assessment, students will create audio artefacts and recordings using various studio interfaces, for example, installation of a specified audio playback system designed to a delivered technical specification.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-4	Portfolio	90%
2	1-4	Simulation	10%

Derogations

None

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.

Ref Glyndwr Staff handbook 2021

The module will be delivered to engage with ALF and will also be used as the delivery is primarily through a series of key, guest lectures and equipment demonstrations. These will be supported by key workshops and/or master classes, where appropriate. Industrial contacts will be used wherever possible to contribute to the lecture series.

Use of the University's VLE is made to encourage dialogue and discussion between students, using the online forum.

The VLE will also be used to ensure that up to date information can be provided to students year-on-year and ensures that reading lists and other sources are up-to-date.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

The purpose of this module is to provide students with a knowledge and understanding of current audio practice. This will entail covering the following indicative content:

Health and safety in the recording studio

The principles and terminology of sound

Gain structure and signal paths

Interconnection standards

Mixing desk topology

Microphones and input devices

Digital Audio Workstations

Overview of live sound principles

System architecture

Stage sources

equalisation

Loudspeaker systems

Computer Aided System tools

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

The student is NOT expected to read whole texts. Suitable sections will be selected by those delivering lectures.

Eargle, J. Foreman, C. (2008), *JBL Audio Engineering for Sound Reinforcement*. Hal Leonard Corporation

Ferreira, C.L. (2013), *Music Production: Recording: A guide for producers, engineers and musicians*. Focal Press

Live Sound International – Online Periodical

<http://www.livesoundint.com>

Rumsey, F. McCormick, T. (2014), *Sound and Recording Applications and Theory*. Focal Press

Other indicative reading

All Live Sound / Prosound Web – Online Resource

<https://www.prosoundweb.com/live-sound/>

Audio Engineering Society–Journal and e-Library <http://www.aes.org>

Bartlett, R. (2012), *Practical Recording Techniques*. Focal Press

Self, D. (2009), *Audio Engineering Explained-for professional audio recording*. Focal Press

Sound on Sound –Periodical / Website <http://www.soundonsound.com/>

Employability skills – the Glyndŵr Graduate

Each module and programme is designed to cover core Glyndŵr Graduate Attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave Glyndŵr having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment. The programme is designed to cover all attributes and each module may cover different areas.

Core Attributes

Engaged
Creative

Key Attitudes

Commitment
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets

Digital Fluency
Organisation
Communication