

Music 350: Music Technology (new catalogue) —Spring 2009

Course Schedule M,W 11am; room 303, Carl J. Murphy Fine Arts Center

Instructor: Tadd Russo

Office hours: M,W 2-3pm by appointment

assignment e-mail: morganmusictech@yahoo.com

Syllabus

Course Description

Music Technology I is an introduction to the use of computers in the creation of music. We will focus on the use of Finale music notation software, MIDI format, and—time willing—some music production software.

Course Goals

- Demonstrate beginning knowledge of Finale music notation software and Digital Performer studio recording software.
- Engrave music in a manner that is “camera-ready” (ready for publication) and produce music in a manner that is performance ready for live presentation or recording.
- Demonstrate knowledge of MIDI history and protocol.

Course Materials

- Finale assignments will be submitted by e-mail, so you will have to maintain an e-mail account and check it for updates throughout the semester. Please inform me if you change your e-mail address.
- You will need to purchase a data storage device in order to save your work. An USB flash drive is recommended, but any portable media supported by the machines (USB or Firewire) in the lab will suffice. **REMEMBER TO SAVE!** If something happens to the file or computer in the lab, and you do not have a backup copy, you will have to start over from scratch (nothing I can do).
- The user manuals of the software we use will be considered required reading for this course. There are no further texts to buy.

Evaluation

- 5% initial e-mail assignment
- 60% course work (3 projects at 20% each)
- 10% written MIDI exam
- 25% final assignment
- assignments turned in late will drop 10% per week late

Calendar

(subject to change with notice)

Also viewable at: <http://calendar.yahoo.com/morganmusictech>

- Week 1** • Introduction to Mac OSx and Finale music notation software
 - Finale: Setup Wizard & Simple Entry Tool
 - Week 2** • **Initial email assignment due (February 2)**
(send a Finale attachment to morganmusictech@yahoo.com).
 - Week 3** • Finale: Simple Entry tool
 - Week 4** • **Assignment #1 due (February 16)**
 - Week 5** • Finale: Speedy Entry & Expression tools
 - Week 6** • Finale: Lyrics & Special Tools
 - Week 7** • Finale: Smart Shape tool & Layers
 - Week 8** • **Assignment #2 due (March 16) NO MIDTERM**
 - Week 9** • Finale: Staff, Articulation, Clef & Key Signature Tools
 - Week 10** • Finale: Page Layout and Mass Edit Tool
 - Week 11** • **MIDI lecture (April 13—do not miss)**
 - **MIDI EXAM (April 15—do not miss)**
 - Week 12** • Work time
 - Week 13** • **Assignment #3 due (April 20)**
 - Digital Performer: introduction and setup
 - Week 14** • Digital Performer: MIDI
 - Week 15** • Digital Performer: Audio
- EXAM WEEK final projects due May 13 no later than Noon!**

MSU Academic Policy

The Morgan State University policy on Academic Dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, stealing, and lying) is published in the MSU Catalogue. Section II of the Policy on Academic Dishonesty proposes that penalties for such abuses are to include: assignment of a grade of F for a given assignment; failure of a course; suspension from the University; expulsion from the University; Revocation (of a thesis, dissertation, certification, or degree); or other relevant sanctions. While working in the digital realm, it can be tempting to find a completed file and simply replace the name with one's own. Please be aware that this action can be detected through a very simple check of the file's history. It is also quite apparent when two assignments have the exact same mistakes.

**SINCE THIS HAS BEEN AN ISSUE IN THE PAST, THERE WILL BE NO
LENIENCY IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS POLICY.**

**ANY QUESTIONABLE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE
IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR AND/OR OTHER
UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES.**

One Final Disclaimer

Please be aware that I am an active duty member of the US Air Force Band, and there is always the possibility that I could be called in to work without prior notice. I will try to notify you as soon as I find out that I will need to be gone. In most cases, there should be plenty of work for you to do in the lab during class time, but in certain cases, I will line up someone to fill in when I am gone.