

COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO  
COURSE OUTLINE

DEPT & NO. MUS. 291

COURSE TITLE: Midi Hardware & Software Sequencing

UNITS: 2.0

LECTURE HRS PER WK: 2 LAB HRS PER WK: 1 OTHER HRS PER WK:     

     OPEN ENTRY/OPEN EXIT

GRADING:      LETTER      CREDIT/NO CREDIT XXX GRADE OPTION(letter or NC)

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1. PREREQUISITE (Attached is Prerequisite/Corequisite Validation Form  
     A      B      C      D      E).

see attached

2. COREQUISITE (Attached is Prerequisite/Corequisite Validation Form  
    A      B      C      D      E).

None

3. RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:

4. CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Including Prerequisites/Corequisites/Recommended  
    Preparation)

Two lecture and one supervised lab hour per week. An advanced MIDI application course focusing on the uses of MIDI in music composition, music production, and multi-media. MIDI applications will include MIDI sequencing programs for both the Macintosh and IBM platforms and music printing software. Prerequisite: MUS 290; Intro to MIDI Music. (CSU)

5. CLASS SCHEDULE DESCRIPTION (Including Prerequisites/Corequisites/Recommended  
    Preparation)

Two lecture and one supervised lab hour per week. An advanced MIDI application course focusing on the uses of MIDI in music composition, music production, and multi-media. MIDI applications will include MIDI sequencing programs for both the Macintosh and IBM platforms and music printing software. Prerequisite: MUS 290; Intro to MIDI Music. (CSU)

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. To explore strengths and weaknesses of commercial software packages for each individual student's compositional needs and applications,
2. To apply one or more software applications to the student's own performances and recording situations,
3. To form a basis for future software evaluation, and lay the basis for growth in the types of application in the field of electronic and MIDI performance and composition,
4. To learn techniques of hardware sequencing, with particular emphasis on its use in a live performance situation.

## 7. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE (Topical Outline)

### Sequencing concepts

Channel voice messages, control messages, system messages etc. The sequencer and sequencing program as a "word processor" for music. Concepts of MIDI data transfer between instruments and sequencing instruments or program.

### Hardware sequencing

Use of the Alesis MMT-8. Improving and exporting MIDI dumps. Track by track editing. Composition of a simple performance piece directly to the hardware sequencer. Use of the hardware sequencer as a performance device.

### Software sequencing

Introduction to concepts of software sequencing with E-Z vision. MIDI dumps from hardware to software sequencers. Exploring software sequencers to hardware sequencers. Editing of music through the use of the software sequencer.

### Comparative sequencing

Comparison of the features, advantages and disadvantages, of sequencing programs such as Vision, Trax and Master Trax Pro, Cakewalk, Dr. T's, and others as they are introduced.

### Music publishing programs

Overview of music graphics and printing  
Comparison of the relative advantages and disadvantages of software such as **Encore** and **Finale**. Discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of Publishing software as a tool for editing and composing music, particularly in comparison to sequencing programs. Preparation of a simple musical score to be printed using such a program.

8. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGIES (Instructor-initiated learning strategies)

Lecture on the history, repertoire and technology of MIDI sequencing and electronic/computer music. Followed up with demonstrations and hands-on lab time to learn the practical applications of MIDI sequencing.

9. MULTIPLE METHODS OF EVALUATION (Measurement of student achievements)

-bi-monthly quizzes	-Journals- grades twice during semester
-bi-monthly lab exercises	-Final music project using MIDI equipment in the lab

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT MATERIALS

- 1. MIDI Sequencing for Musicians (Editors of Keyboard Magazine)
- 2. The Next MIDI Book (Ruchner and Walker)

11. REQUIRED OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (Supplemental reading, outside projects)

Preparation of a printed score of music utilizing one of the publishing packages discussed in class.

12. WRITING ASSIGNMENTS/PROFICIENCY DEMONSTRATIONS:

Demonstration of basic proficiency on each sequencing package discussed through written quizzes (maximum of 50% of grade)

Performance in the MIDI Lab of a composition sequenced through one of the above methods (maximum of 35% of grade)

PREPARED BY:

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