Course Syllabus

MUSC 2453 (4:3:4)

Live Sound III

Live Sound/Sound Reinforcement Certificate

Sound Technology Program

Technical Education Division

Levelland Campus

South Plains College

Fall 2018/Spring 2019

Course Title: *MUSC 2453 Live Sound III (4:3:4)*

Instructor: *Matt Quick*

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Office Hours: *As posted on instructor's door*

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I.   *General Course Information:*

    A.   Description: Advanced concepts of live sound engineering for front-of-house mix. Includes techniques required to build and maintain a live sound mix for an audience. Students will be responsible for mixing front-of-house for designated performances. MUSC 1405 is a prerequisite for this course.

    B.   End of Course Outcomes: Create and maintain a front-of-house mix; demonstrate routing and utilization of effects and dynamic processors; explain signal flow and interconnection of components; and troubleshoot front-of-house sound systems. Develop understanding and recognition of different musical genres, and common instruments.

    C.   Course Competencies: Upon completion of this course, each student will have demonstrated through comprehensive examinations, with a score of 70% or better, a competent understanding of: front of house signal flow, advanced console operations, advanced dynamic and effects processing, ear training and mixing techniques for live sound.

    D.   Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. Students should refer to the SPC General Catalog, pg.22-23, regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism (see "Academic Integrity" as well as "Student Conduct" sections).

    E.   SCANS: This course is designed to meet the following SCANS and Foundation skills criteria: C3, C4, C6, C9, C11, C13, C15, C17, C18, C19, C20, F5, F6, F7, F9, F11, F15, and F16. A complete list of SCANS Competencies and Foundation Skills are located on the last page of the syllabus.

    F.   Verification: This course will provide the student with their capstone experience. The student must provide a professional level mix for one of the performances during the end of semester fest week.

II. **Specific Course/Instructor Requirements:**

   A. Textbook and Other Materials: <u>Audio Production and Critical Listening</u>; by Jason Corey Handouts and other resources provided by instructor as needed. One 4GB USB Flash Drive.

   B. Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

     When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

     Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

     It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

     Punctual and regular attendance is required of all students. Missing four consecutive classes or having a total of five absences *may* result in an instructor-initiated withdrawal. Students are responsible for all missed material. If a student is absent on a day that a test is given, **he or she will not be allowed to make up the test unless arrangements are made prior to the test day.** Any student not present at roll taking will be counted absent unless prior arrangements have been made.

   C. Assignment Policy: Projects and reading assignments will be announced at least one class meeting prior to responsibility for material.

   D. Grading Policy/Procedure: The student's final grade will be made up of a weighted average of at least one written test (10%), daily quiz average (10%), mixing assignments (20%), lab assignments (10%) and course competencies (50%). A list of the required course competencies will be attached to this syllabus. Each competency is worth 10 points; however a student must achieve at least 7 out of the 10 points in every competency to complete the competency requirement. Non completion of the competencies equals a 0% for the competency portion of the student's grade. Grading format: A= 90-100%, B= 80-89%, C= 70-79%, D= 60-69%, F= 0-59%

   E. Special Requirements: MUSC 1405 is a prerequisite/ co requisite. Students will be responsible for arranged lab activities and mixing front of house for designated shows including Thursday Nite Live, Alterna TV, Picking on the Plains, Country Jukebox, end of semester Fest Nights and others to be announced.

III. **Course Outline:**

Topic Outline:

Front of House system orientation
Front of House console operation
Basic mixing Techniques
Equalization
Dynamic Processing
Effects Processing
Test
The Musical Engineer
Mixing Hierarchies

Ear Training
Mixing Monitors from Front of House
Mix Practice
Mixing Tests/Final
Instructor reserves the right to modify this at anytime.

IV.   *Accommodations*

Course Competencies for MUSC 2453

1	Can turn on/off an audio system correctly
2	Understands the signal flow of a FOH audio system
3	Communicate the roles and responsibilities of a professional FOH mix engineer
4	Understands input section of an industry standard console (pad/digital trim, preamp, polarity reverse, phantom)
5	Understands equalizer section & HPF of an industry standard console
6	Understands aux sends including aux masters (pre & post fader)
7	Understands signal routing concepts including subgroups
8	Understands signal control concepts (vca group masters)
9	Understands signal control concepts (mute groups, scene recall)
10	Understands a console's matrix
11	Can bring an input into a mix safely & smoothly using appropriate gain structure
12	Can patch/apply a compressor for dynamic range control
13	Can patch/apply a noise gate for dynamic range control
14	Can patch/apply an effects processor
15	Identify variety of musical genres
16	Can create a mix that is appropriate for different genres of music
17	Can maintain control of a mix during a live performance
18	Identify variety of musical instruments and their frequency spectrum
19	Demonstrate understanding of micing techniques for common instruments
20	Demonstrate understanding of industry standard console management software