PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

PRO TOOLS
VPT 2015

Class Hours:  3.0
Credit Hours:  3.0
Laboratory Hours:  0.0
Date Revised:  Spring 2011

Catalog Course Description:

Advanced sound techniques, emphasizing creative control of audio and sound for picture using Pro Tools. Multiple soundtracks with voice, music and effects will be produced, edited and mixed for distribution in various formats, primarily for video and CD. The focus is primarily on stereo editing and mixing, although some surround concepts will be introduced.

Entry Level Standards:

Students shall have had prior experience with desktop computers preferably Apple (MAC).

Prerequisites:

VPT 1015

Co-requisites:

N/A

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:

Sources of related information including videotapes, trade journals, library resources and Internet sources will be used. Note: Thanks to a major effort by the acquisitions staff at the College and funding by special grants like COE, Pellissippi State has built a large collection of books and videotapes related to the telecommunications industry. Students should investigate and utilize these resources.

Students may want to purchase 1 portable/external Firewire or USB 2.0 hard drive with a minimum storage of 250 gigabytes, an 8 gig Flash/USB drive, student discount on software for the course, a laptop computer, 2 DVDs and Headphones.

Required Textbook:

Professional grade headphones (at least $75). Equal to: Sony 7506, Audio-Technica ATH-M50, Koss PRO-4AAT.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction, workstations, software, syllabus, books and projects; basic setup, server, protocol / open pro tools import file</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Edit file/voice import music</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3  Edit Thomson VO; begin 1st radio spot
4  Continue 1st radio spot; continue 1st radio spot
5  Finish first radio spot: celtic radio; begin chatt big band
6  Audio for video productions; finish chatt big band. examine busses, aux, and sends with reverb on the chatt big band spot
7  Review auxes and sends, start Ben Folds spot
8  Ben Folds spot
9  Fall break; start Post v8 mix
10 Post v8 version "skunk"; Post v7 version "red dragon"
11 Post v7 finish; Music v8 project
12 Mixing
13 Music v8 project; continued
14 Sound design techniques; NYC Tap Water post and design
15 NYC Tap Water sound design; Review of pieces

II. Course Goals*:

The course will:

A. Develop a fundamental understanding of audio production through directed study, lectures, demonstrations and projects. I, II, V

B. Develop competence in audio editing and mixing tracks for audio only and for video. I, III, IV, VI

C. Develop an understanding of the interrelationship between audio and the image. I, IV, V, VI

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the Video Production Technology program (Career Program Goals and General Education Goals are listed http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/curriculum_and_instruction/syllabi/)

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the application of audio composition for audio only and audio with image. A

2. Apply concepts learned to production work in other classes and in the professional field. A, C

3. Exhibit knowledge of the basic audio composition and editing concepts. A

4. Appreciate the use and application of the audio concepts. A, C
5. Complete at least one major production project and constructively criticize the work of oneself and one’s peers. A, B

6. Write insightful, appropriately developed answers to essay questions concerning the works studied. B, C

7. Articulate the value and application of audio composition to video and media production. A, B, C

* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures: 20% of grade

20 points - Tests Students will satisfactorily complete all tests on the assigned readings and will satisfactorily complete the required audio composition and editing projects as assigned in order to earn a passing grade.

B. Laboratory Expectations: 80% of grade

Each project completed counts for an equal percentage of the final grade; i.e., a minimum of 5 projects is completed each semester, so each project would count for 20% of the grade. In previous classes, from 7 to 10 projects have been completed. Attendance policy supersedes this grading policy. Tests are in the form of a pro tools project and may include written test as well or in replacement of the test project.

C. Field Work:

N/A

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 69</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 60</td>
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V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.
VPT Program Attendance: The VPT program believes a more stringent requirement is realistic because of the contractual commitment made by the College with local area employers. Therefore, to successfully complete VPT courses, students must attend at least 85% of classes. To be considered in attendance, students are expected to be in class at the scheduled starting time for that class. Students will be considered tardy from that time until 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time. Three such tardies shall constitute an absence. Students arriving any time after 10 minutes beyond the scheduled starting time for a class will be considered absent.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:
• Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
• Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
• Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one’s own work.
• Taking an exam for another student.
• Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
• Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/.

D. Other Policies:

Any act of misuse, vandalism, malicious or unwarranted damage or destruction, defacing, disfiguring, or unauthorized use of property/equipment belonging to Pellissippi State is subject to disciplinary sanction.

No handheld media devices or laptops are allowed in class unless otherwise noted. Students will receive a warning, a second infringement will result in an absence for the class. No gaming, using Facebook, texting or instant messaging will be tolerated on any VPT campus workstations during class.