RTD 463
Sound Art and Practice II

Professor: Jay Needham
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Office: Communications 1050D
Office Hours: Tues. 10:00 am -12:00 pm
Wed: 10:00 am -12:00 pm & 1:30pm- 3:30pm

Teaching Assistant: Mike Maxwell
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Office: Comm. 0012
Office Hours: Tues.12:00 pm-2:00pm
Wed. 9:00am-12:00pm

Class Time: Tuesday 2:00-4:30 pm Comm. 1016
Supplemental studio sessions TBA.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In a field as diverse as the audio arts, the role of the artist/producer has evolved in a complex series of changes that have created a new kind of content creator. Our semester will be drawn into three distinct units with each unit having it’s own assigned readings, discussions and creative assignment. This is a course that demands a high level of creative input from students both in and out of class. Assignments for this class require students to work many hours outside our regular meeting time. Students are responsible for a final project and that component of the semester’s work is an opportunity to refine an idea and create a sound work that is representative of a capstone experience.

COURSE GOALS - EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES
To obtain and demonstrate creative and technical proficiencies relating to the creation of stereo sound, surround sound and additional techniques for recorded sound and audile perception. To express, through sound, a signature sound (authorship) and to create a portfolio of original creative works. To gain an understanding of how to contextualize creative sound practice in today’s culture.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS: Assignments for this course are to be placed on the server on the due date of the assignment. One individual meeting with the instructor during the course of the semester is required. Each assignment for the class will have a technical and aesthetic component; high marks will result if students are able to achieve a level of artistic integrity that supersedes technical mastery. All files are to be stereo, AIFF 16-bit audio at 44.1KHZ unless otherwise noted. No late assignments will be accepted or graded.

ASSIGNMENT EVALUATION:
The assignments, studio sessions and critiques are specifically sequenced to provide you with a technical, aesthetic and verbal skill set. You will be graded on these aspects of your work as you progress through the semester. Personal one on one critiques are an excellent way to obtain additional feedback on your work, see me for meeting times and also remember that meeting with the class Teaching Assistant is also advised.
PARTICIPATION - CRITIQUES AND ETIQUETTE
This course offers a forum for critique. These sessions have been designed so that students gain verbal feedback from myself, the T. A. and peers enrolled in the course. Active verbal participation is required in all class discussions and critique sessions. In-class participation counts for 100 points (refer to the point structure below). Critiques can be rigorous, and I strive to maintain an atmosphere of productivity. Bring your best ideas and honest reactions to these sessions.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS POLICY
I allow students to use laptops and other electronic devices in my classrooms, but they are only to be used for in-class research and or note taking. Texting is not allowed during our meeting times. If I observe that your use of technology becomes disruptive or distracting to myself or students enrolled in the course, I may ask you to stop.

READINGS AND SUPPORT MATERIALS
Readings, links and supplementary materials will be provided for this course on our server space.

ATTENDANCE
Two excused absences will be allowed per student over the course of the semester. Each absence after two will result in the reduction of the grade by a letter grade.

GRADING (1000 pts.)
Unit 1 Story on Sound 200
Unit 2 Sound Dimensions 200
Unit 3 Final Project 500
Participation 100

REQUIRED MATERIALS
Headphones (required)
External Firewire drive (required)
Flash Card (4-8 gig or greater)