

# Music 391: MIDI Sequencing

## Spring Semester 2012

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Course Web Page:	Accessed through Moodle: <a href="http://moodle.csun.edu">http://moodle.csun.edu</a>
Office Hours:	MW 10–11, 1–2
Pre-requisite:	MUS 191/L Fundamentals of Music Technology
Texts:	Hosken, Dan. <i>Music Technology and the Project Studio: Synthesis and Sampling</i> (bookstore)
Additional Materials:	Headphones 1+ GB USB Flash Drive Tickets to the two required concerts
Open Lab Times:	See Posted Schedule

### Course Description

This course is the follow-up to Music 191: *Introduction to Music Technology*. The primary focus of this class is on MIDI Sequencing and associated topics such as digital audio and synthesis. Throughout the course of the semester you will complete numerous projects utilizing MIDI sequencing, software synthesis, digital audio editing, synthesizer programming, and synchronization to digital video. In addition, we will be taking an in-depth look at the MIDI specification, digital audio, and synthesis and sampling techniques.

### Course Objectives

After the successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Explain the details of the MIDI specification
- Explain the practical setup of MIDI networks
- Sequence music using MIDI messages to create realistic, nuanced performances
- Explain acoustics and digital audio at an intermediate level
- Integrate digital audio and MIDI in a DAW/Sequencer using recorded audio and loops
- Explain a variety of synthesis and sampling techniques
- Create new expressive timbres using a variety of synthesis and sampling techniques.

### Music Department Student Learning Outcome addressed in this course

- demonstrate a working knowledge of music technology and its application to their area of specialization.

[for a complete list of music department Student Learning Outcomes, see <http://www.csun.edu/catalog/music.html>]

## Grading

Your grade will be based upon the following guidelines:

**Regular Projects** 40%

**Final Project** 10%

There will be a number of sequencing and other projects throughout the semester. For several of the assignments, you may elect to compose original music but it is not required. See the course schedule for tentative due dates.

**Written Homework** 15%

There will be several written assignments associated with the material in the readings and the lectures. See the course schedule for tentative due dates.

**2 Tests** 30%

There will be two tests during the semester (a midterm and a comprehensive final).

- There will be *no* makeup tests without a doctor's note presented the day you return to classes.
- If you must miss a test due to a school ensemble performance or similar obligation, you obtain permission from the instructor and make arrangements to take the test *in advance* of the scheduled time.

**Required Concerts** 5%

You are required to attend two specific concerts this semester and then submit a brief concert report along with proof of concert attendance (your ticket stub). If you are absolutely unable to attend one of the concerts, your instructor may assign an alternate assignment at the instructor's discretion. Students who perform in a concert will be exempted from the concert report requirement for that concert. Here are the required concerts:

1. Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 8pm, Valley Performing Arts Center: CSUN Wind Ensemble
2. Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 8pm, Valley Performing Arts Center: CSUN Symphony and Northridge Singers perform Orff's *Carmina Burana*

## Policies

### Attendance Policy

Per Music Department policy:

- Each absence in excess of 3 shall lower the final grade by 1/3 grade (+/-).
- Tardiness is defined as arrival any moment after the time the class is listed to begin in the Schedule of Classes. Two "Tardiness"es shall be counted as one absence.
- Absence due to illness will be excused only with a doctor's verification slip.

### Collaboration Policy

You are expected to complete both the projects and the written homework for this course on your own. You may form study groups, but the work you turn in must be your own work and, in the case of the written homework, in your own words.

***Lab Work-at-home Policy***

At the instructor's discretion, it may be possible for you to work on lab projects on your own computer if you have the appropriate software. All project work must be done *solely* by you. If you choose to work at home and need to use the lab for projects, you may have to use the lab during open lab times.

***Late Work Policy***

*Work must be turned in on time.* If you are absent from a class when a project is due, you must turn it in the very next class. If you must miss a class (for example, due to a school ensemble performance), notify the instructor and turn in the assignment *in advance* of the scheduled time.

***Grade Ranges***

97–100	A	93–96	A	90–92	A-
87–89	B+	83–86	B	80–82	B-
77–79	C+	73–76	C	70–72	C-
67–69	D+	63–66	D	60–62	D-

***Students with Disabilities***

If you have a disability and need accommodations, please register with the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) office or the National Center on Deafness (NCOD). The DRES office is located in Bayramian Hall, room 110 and can be reached at (818) 677-2684. NCOD is located on Bertrand Street in Jeanne Chisholm Hall and can be reached at (818) 677-2611. If you would like to discuss your need for accommodations with me, please contact me to set up an appointment.