

025:251 COMPOSITION: ELECTRONIC MEDIA II

Lawrence Fritts

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Office hours: MTW, 1:30-3:30 and after class. Best to email for appointments.

Spring 2006

Staff: Rachel Foote at rachel-foote@uiowa.edu

Paul Alan Brenner at paul-a-brenner@uiowa.edu

Goals: Students will build on techniques learned in Fall 2005, which were derived from a working knowledge of **Pro Tools, Peak, Audacity, and Sound Hack**. This semester's technology will center on **Kyma, Max/MSP**, and the **Moog Synthesizer**. Additionally, an overview at the end of the semester of IRCAM's **Open Music** will be provided. The compositional focus of the class will extend ideas developed last semester in recording, mixing, montage, and transformation. Ideas that will be explored this semester include composition in the spectral domain, interactions with software via computer keyboard, MIDI controllers, math functions, randomness, and live microphone input. The course work includes EMS concert participation, in-class listening and discussion, and presentation of student works in progress.

Grading: Grades are based on participation/attendance (10%), class presentations (20%), and the final composition (70%). Poor attendance will result in a lower grade.

Class Critiques: Students will present and discuss their work in several class critiques throughout the semester.

Listening Presentations: Students will present representative works by a range of composers in listening sessions throughout the semester.

Final Project: The final project will consist of a 5:00 work for electronic sound. Final compositions are due in Professor Fritts's box in 1007 by Tuesday May 9 at 4:00 PM. Late works will result in a lower grade. CDs or other materials must be clearly labeled with typed information including: Composer's Name (as you wish it to appear on a program); Title; Duration; Date (day-month-year). Please turn in two complete versions of your work. For 8-channel works, please provide an 8-channel CD-ROM CD and a stereo audio CD.

Class Materials: Students should consider purchasing storage media.

Studio Access: Students will be assigned keys to Studios 1 and 2. Schedules will be posted outside each studio door. To receive keys, send an email to Prof. Fritts at lawrence-fritts@uiowa.edu. There is a refundable key deposit of \$100 which will be charged to your U-Bill. Arrangements for this are done in the Main Office.

Studio Maintenance: The studios should be kept clean at all times. Furniture and equipment should be symmetrically arranged and dust-free. Food and open drinks should not be consumed in the studios. Bottled drinks should be carefully handled. During inclement weather, please wipe your shoes carefully before coming into the building.

Studio Problems: Please report any problems to Paul and Rachel as soon as they occur, by sending them an email immediately or by leaving a note outside their office in Room 2059. Problems cannot be fixed unless they know about them, so please contact them immediately and describe the problem clearly.

Equipment Check-out: Shure SM57 microphones and cables are kept in a drawer of the desk holding the Moog. To check out a mini-disk recorder and other microphones, please make arrangements with Rachel and Paul.

Special Needs: I need to hear from anyone who has a disability, which may require some modification of seating, testing or other class requirements so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Please see me after class or during my office hours.

Class Policies: This course is given by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This means that class policies on matters such as requirements, grading, and sanctions for academic dishonesty are governed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Students wishing to add or drop this course after the official deadline must receive the approval of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Details of the University policy of cross enrollments may be found at: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~provost/deos/crossenroll.doc>.

Calendar

- Jan. 18 Overview of **Kyma**: history, compositional uses, interface. Basic spectral analysis.
- Jan. 23-25 Spectral Editing in **Kyma**. Discussion of hot and cold parameters for interactivity.
- Jan. 29 **Electronic Music Studios** concert: Sunday, Jan. 29, 2006, 8:00 PM Clapp Recital Hall.
- Jan. 30-Feb. 1 Development of modules for spectral composition and processing.
- Feb. 6-8 MIDI interactivity via PC-1600 faders and keyboard controller. Use of the Tuning Tool.
- Feb. 13-15 **Listening Presentations.**
- Feb. 20 **Moog Synthesizer.**
- Feb. 22 Fritts at SPARK. No class. (The Jan. 29 concert counts as a substitution for this class.)
- March 6-8 Overview of **Max/MSP.**
- March 12-15 **Spring Break**
- March 20-22 **Class critiques.**
- March 27 **Class critiques.**
- March 29 Fritts at SEAMUS. No class. (The April 2 concert counts as a substitution for this class.)
- April 2 **Electronic Music Studios** concert: Sunday, April 2, 2006, 8:00 PM Clapp Recital Hall.
- April 3-5 Sample playback, digital synthesis, and mixing in **Max/MSP.**
- April 10-12 Interactivity via computer keyboard and live microphone input.
- April 17-19 Intro to **Open Music.**
- April 24-26 **Class Critiques**
- May 1-3 **Class Critiques**
- May 9 **Final Projects due in Prof. Fritts's box by 4:00 PM Tuesday May 9. Late projects will receive a lower grade. Please turn in 2 versions of your final project.**