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# DAPR 2000: Digital Audio Essentials

**Schedule:** Monday–Thursday, 10:00 AM–12:15 PM

**Location:** CS 623

**Instructor:** Bryan Sansom

**Email:** [bryan.sansom@uvu.edu](mailto:bryan.sansom@uvu.edu)

**Office:** CS 710D and on Microsoft Teams

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## Course Description

This course introduces foundational concepts in digital audio and sound engineering. Topics include:

- Sound propagation, absorption, reflection, and transmission
  - Frequency response and decibel calculations (loudness, power, voltage)
  - Basic audio editing and gain staging
  - Microphone types and placement
  - Monitoring fundamentals
  - Recording and mixing techniques
  - Dynamic processing: EQ, compression
  - Time-based effects: reverb, delay, chorus, phasing
  - Basic acoustic principles
  - The “Who, What, Why, and How” of the audio world
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## Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and use appropriate audio cables and connectors
  - Understand microphone types, polar patterns, and use cases
  - Explain the decibel and its applications in audio
  - Apply concepts of basic acoustics (period, frequency, wavelength, etc.)
  - Use Pro Tools to edit and mix 10-track audio sessions
  - Operate basic signal processors (EQ, compression, reverb)
  - Discuss frequency response and Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)
  - Assess sound quality and explain Fletcher-Munson curve
  - Understand digital audio concepts (bit depth, sample rate, bit rate)
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## Prerequisites and Corequisites

- **Course Prerequisite/Corequisite:** DAPR 2000L
- **Math Recommendation:** MAT 1030, MAT 1035, MATH 1050, or MATH 1055 (recommended for better comprehension)

### Technology Skills Needed:

- Ability to use a computer (basic functions like copy/paste and navigation)
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## Required Materials and Tools

- **Studio Headphones (Required):**  
Suggested models: *Sennheiser HD280* or similar.  
*Note:* Earbuds, Bluetooth headphones, and laptop speakers are **not acceptable**.
- **Pro Tools (Required):**  
Students must install the **student version of Pro Tools** on their own laptops by Week 2.  
Download from: [www.avid.com](http://www.avid.com)

*Note: Pro Tools is also available on classroom machines.*

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## Course Format and Expectations

**Mode:** Face-to-Face with Online Components

**Attendance:** Mandatory. Missing more than one week can significantly affect your success.

Expect to spend:

- ~9 hours/week (full semester)
- ~18 hours/week (block class)

**Platform:** UVU Canvas (content, grades, communication)

**You will:**

- Attend every class
  - Work independently and in class using Pro Tools
  - Complete two mixing projects using progressively advanced tools
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## Academic Integrity

Cheating or plagiarism will result in a **zero** for the assignment. Do your own work.

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### **Student Responsibilities**

- Start during the first week of class
  - Set regular time for coursework and meet all deadlines
  - Use Canvas effectively; contact IT support if needed
  - Communicate promptly about emergencies
  - Late work is accepted but **automatically reduced by 11%**
  - Grade disputes are welcome—this helps improve the course
  - Notify the instructor in advance if missing class (treat this like a job)
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### **Instructor Responsibilities**

- Respond to emails within **2 business days**
  - Give timely and constructive feedback
  - Create a supportive, effective learning environment
  - Refer students to additional services when needed
  - Serve as a mentor throughout the course
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### **Grading**

#### **Extra Credit:**

None. Instead, **re-do assignments** until you achieve your desired grade.

#### **Grading Scale:**

##### **Grade Percent**

A	92.5–100
A-	90–92.4
B+	87.5–89.9
B	82.5–87.4
B-	80–82.4
C+	77.5–79.9
C	72.5–77.4
C-	70–72.4
D+	67.5–69.9

## Grade Percent

D	62–67.4
D-	60–61.9
E	0–59

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## Assignment Categories

Activity	Points
DAW Mixes	140
Quizzes	170
Exams	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>510</b>

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## Late Work Policy

There is no such thing as “late work”—deadlines are final. However:

- You may **re-do any assignment** submitted on time as many times as needed to improve your grade.
  - If you know you'll miss a deadline, **contact the instructor beforehand** to negotiate an extension. This models real-world professionalism.
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## Assessments

- **Discussions:** Optional peer forums (not graded)
  - **Quizzes:** To be determined
  - **Exams:** To be determined
  - **Course Schedule:** To be determined
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## University Policies & Student Support

- [UVU Policies and Procedures](#)
- [Student Success Resources](#)
- [Accessibility Services \(OAS\)](#)
  - Location: LC 312, Orem Campus
  - Phone: 801-863-8747
  - Email (Deaf/HOH): [nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu](mailto:nicole.hemmingsen@uvu.edu) | Text: 385-208-2677

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## **Technology Support**

### **Canvas Support (24/7):**

- Live Chat: [Canvas Support Chat](#)
- Phone: 385-204-4930

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## **Fair Use Statement**

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