

Final Project Guidelines and Introduction

Recording, Engineering, and Mixing

For the last several weeks of this class, you will be working alone or in small groups to produce a recording and mixing project of your own design. This project will have to include the following elements:

- a) At least 8 full (3-5 minute long) audio tracks per person
- b) At least four full audio tracks per person that are original compositions – these can be MIDI-based (each track should be a unique MIDI sequence) or real recorded tracks.
- c) The other four tracks can be downloaded audio or MIDI loops
- d) At least one other creative element that serves as a theme for your audio mixdown. This element can be a story (written or spoken/recorded), a video, a painting or drawing, a sculpture, or any other creative piece that is approved by the instructor.

At the end of the period on Friday, January 29, you will need to turn in your completed project.

The audio part of your project will be the most significant portion of your grade. As part of your work in REAPER, you need to demonstrate ample evidence that you have mastered the following skills:

1. Using EQ, compressors, and noise gates
2. Using pan and volume
3. Using automation
4. Using MIDI instruments
5. Using special effects

Make sure that you choose your group members wisely and let me know immediately about any issues you encounter with your groups. I can make sure that things work well going forward, but it is extremely difficult for me to fix problems that have happened in the past. You will receive a group grade for your work, so if you have a partner or partners who are not working productively, let me know as soon as possible.

You should also schedule any necessary studio time as quickly as you can – and make sure to use your class time productively.

Before you begin your final project, please write or type a detailed work plan and turn it in to me. Your work plan should explain the following:

- What are you going to do for your final project?
- Who are your partners?
- When will you carry out the various tasks that are necessary?
- What do you need from me (or from the school) to complete your project?