**TERM**: Spring 2014

**COURSE INFORMATION**:

**Course Title:** MUSI 3541

**Credit & Format:** 1 Credit – Lab

**Time & Location:** MWF 2:05-2:55 p.m. in Couch 115

**INSTRUCTOR**:

**Name**: Chris Moore

**Telephone**: 404.894.8977

**E-mail**: chris.moore@gatech.edu

**Office**: Couch 100

**Office hours**: By appointment

**PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:** This course will prepare percussion literature using student designed and built instruments, interfaces and software, as well as commercially available controllers for scheduled performances throughout the semester. The purpose of the class is to develop:

1. An understanding of instrumental technique and performance technology in theory and practice.
2. Create music performances appropriate for the concert atmosphere.
3. Discern, discuss and contextualize major genres of electronic percussion music.
4. Recognize and compare the cultural context(s) in which electronic percussion music was written, performed.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of the course, each student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate and utilize proper instrumental technique.
2. Read and understand contemporary musical symbols and notation.
3. Discern, discuss and contextualize major percussion ensemble music and performance technologies.
4. Apply rhythmic, harmonic, structural analytical techniques in relation to electronic percussion performance.
5. Present a final project (artifact) demonstrating technological and musical merit.

**PROCEDURES**: Class will meet MWF from 2:05 to 2:55 p.m. for lecture and rehearsal. Attendance is *required*. The instructor is under no obligation to make up material presented in class unless the student provides a reasonable and, if appropriate, documented excuse. Some assignments may require additional lab and sectional time.

**PREREQUISITE**: Significant instrumental music experience is required.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**:

1. The Electronic Drum Cookbook – 18 Practical Electronic Drum Circuits by Thomas Henry, Fourth Printing, 2006, (updated, prepared for PDF output), Magic Smoke Electronics (www.magsmoke.com). Electronic version, available on iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, and Mac for $8.99 Publisher: Lulu.com.
2. The Complete Electronic Percussion Book June, 1987. by David Crombie, Amsco Music, June 1987, ISBN-10: 0825610923, ISBN-13: 978-0825610929

**ATTENDANCE**:

Regular attendance is expected and required of all members. Attendance will be taken at each class/rehearsal and performance.

**PERFORMANCES**: Concert performances will be announced well in advance and will serve as exams.

**MUSIC**: Music will be provided by Georgia Tech and distributed during the first few weeks of rehearsal, and supplemented throughout the semester. Students are responsible for having all music at rehearsals.

**UNIFORM:** Dress black for men and women.

**CELL PHONE POLICY**:Please refrain from using a cell phone, tablet, or electronic device during rehearsal, except when specified for instruction

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:**

1. Ensemble instruction
2. Lecture/discussion
3. Assigned readings and recordings
4. Demonstrations of system and circuit design
5. Individual instruction within sectional framework

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

1. Rehearsal/Sectional attendance 40%
2. Performances (exams) 30%
3. Research and design 10%
4. Recording and reading homework 10%
5. Instrument and circuit design paper 10%

100%

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Students must do their own work on assignments, projects, and tests unless collaboration is previously specified and approved by the instructor. Students caught cheating will receive zero credit for that assignment and may be subject to further sanctions through the Office of Student Integrity. Students are expected to abide by the Georgia Tech Honor Code and avoid any instances of academic misconduct, including but not limited to:

1. Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired written or oral information in the preparation of a paper or for an exam.
2. Substitution of material that is wholly or substantially identical to that created or published by another individual or individuals.
3. False claims of performance or work that has been submitted by the student.

Please refer to the published Georgia Institute of Technology Academic Honor Code for further information:

* [osi.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=46](http://osi.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=46)

**STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The ADAPTS Office will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. The web site for a student requesting accommodation is:

* <http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=12>

**COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR:** Although the major repertoire of the group is fixed for the semester, some works will be added throughout the semester. Thus, specific music will be rehearsed as needed and a weekly itinerary will be sent out in advance.

**TOPICS/REHEARSALS:**

Week of: Monday, Jan 6 – Drum machines, rhythm units, rehearsal

Monday, Jan 13 – Trigger conditioners, electronic drum pads, rehearsal

Monday, Jan 20 – School Holiday (no class), percussive envelope generators, controllers

Monday, Jan 27 – Beat followers, repeating triggers, rehearsal

Monday, Feb 3 – Electronic drum kits, MIDI, rehearsal

Monday, Feb 10 – Computer controlled percussion, analog white noise sources, rehearsal

Monday, Feb 17 – VCO for percussive instruments, Twin-T oscillators, rehearsal

Monday, Feb 24 – Lowpass VCF for percussive instruments, rehearsal

Monday, Feb 31 – VCA for percussive instruments, rehearsal

Monday, March 3 – Triangle to sine converters, rehearsal

Monday, March 10 – Sampled percussion voices, patterns/songs/chains, rehearsal

Monday, March 24 – Drum sub-mixer, snares generator, rehearsal

Monday, March 31 – Shell resonance generator, electronic snare drum, rehearsal

Monday, April 7 – Rhythm programming, rehearsal

Monday, April 14 – rehearsal and performance

**PERFORMANCES:**

Thursday, February 20 –7:30 p.m., Ferst Center

Monday, April 14 – 7:30 p.m., Couch 115