

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Creative Media
with effect from Semester A 2017 /18**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Location Sound Recording

Course Code: SM3150

Course Duration: One semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: B3

Proposed Area:
(for GE courses only)

Arts and Humanities
 Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations
 Science and Technology

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) SM1702 Creative Media Studio I

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course aims to provide students with the fundamentals of recording sound on location. Upon completion of the course, students will have confidence in controlling sound acquisition for field recording and live action camera shooting. Concise concepts, knowledge and techniques of location recording, from theories to equipment usage will be delivered by professional experts in the industry. Hands on and real world experience will be provided by collaborating with another cinematography class.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs [#]	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Describe the set up of a location sound recording session for most common scenarios.		✓	✓	
2.	Analyze, enumerate and compare various audio content and techniques of field recorded materials.		✓	✓	
3.	Diagnose and correct faulty recording sessions.			✓	✓
4.	Professionally manage and execute recording session in a live action camera shooting location.		✓	✓	✓
5.	Apply post production techniques to correct problematic audio materials and prepare final deliverable materials synchronised to picture.			✓	✓
6. [^]	General personal insight as a result of critical interpretation of the subject matter		✓	✓	
		100%			

* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

[#] Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

[^] Negotiated Learning Outcome (NLO) explicitly articulating the elements of Discovery oriented learning.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)
(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Lecture / Guided Exploration	Basic location recording setup and experiment with different recording equipment.	✓						
Media Analysis / Discussion	Critical listening to films, animations, and other location recorded materials with critiques and discussions on the audio content.		✓				✓	
Media Analysis / Problem Solving	Examine recording sessions, diagnose problems and experiment with different scenarios.			✓				
Project / Simulation / Practice	Collaborate with Cinematography class and carry out recording sessions with industry experts.				✓		✓	
Problem Solving / Guided Exploration	Correct problematic soundtracks and prepare final audio material to a professional level.					✓		

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)
(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
Field recording assignment	✓						10%	
Soundtrack review and critique		✓					15%	
Practical test on location sound setup			✓				15%	
Recording session in live action shooting location				✓			20%	
Final project with location recorded soundtrack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	40%	
Examination: 0% (duration: _____, if applicable)								

* The weightings should add up to 100%.

100%

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Soundtrack Review and Critique	This assessment will grade on rationality, clarity and fluency of argument and comment. The threshold of 'discovery' lies in a student's ability to negotiate a position that is informed, defensible, and standing on personal insight.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rich content, excellent ability to interpret and integrate various resources – Rigorous organization, coherent structure, systematic composition – Precision in argument, well defined and reasoned points of view grounded in insightful interpretation of existing literature – Readiness to respond to peer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content, sufficient ability to integrate various resources based on demand – Reasonable organization with balanced structure and composition – Clear elaboration of ideas that sticks to the point, with clearly differentiated issues, ability to interpret opinions independently – Sufficient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content, fair ability to integrate various resources based on demand – Fair organization with adequate structure and composition – Relevant points made to the subject matter in question – Ability to respond to other statements and engage in class discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Weak content, limited use of resources – Poor organization, structure and composition – Relevant points to the subject matter, marginal ability to interpret opinions – Ability to respond to other comments in simple terms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inadequate content, no/ irrelevant use of resources – No organization, structure or/and composition – Irrelevant points to the subject matter, no ability to interpret opinions – Fail to respond to other comments

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> opinion and other views initiated in class discussion – Discussion shed light on new dimensions of the issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> responses to peer comments to sustain a discussion 			
2. Location Recorded Soundtrack	Students should demonstrate ability to utilize primary and secondary sources, execute creative ideas and projects. The threshold of ‘discovery’ lies in a student’s proactively turning theory into praxis, to transform course material into self-owned authorship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work has strong affective quality and the articulation of personal styles and signature – Excellent appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Work raises questions and instill insights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strong appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Proper adjustment of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Basic appreciation and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Limited ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Adjustment of plans and strategies in response to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Marginal appreciation of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Marginal ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Limited adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – No appreciation of the aesthetics and expressive qualities of the medium – Fail to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Minimal adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
		<p>about the process of conception, creative strategization and production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Innovative exploration by combining knowledge from different disciplines (e.g. mathematics, psychology, physics, anthropology, etc.) to create an inter-disciplinary project - Efficient adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, 	<p>plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available and constructive feedback/ suggestions</p>	<p>resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available</p>		

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
		equipment, etc) available with constructive adjustment				

Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Location recording, field recording, sound recording, acoustics, ambient sound, microphone, location recorder, sound for picture, camera, mixer, preventative maintenance, polar pattern, wireless, impedance matching, routing device, media management, monitoring, headphone.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

Nil

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Bartlett, Bruce. Bartlett, Jenny. <i>On Location Recording Techniques</i> , USA: Focal Press, 1999.
2.	Alkin, Glyn. <i>Sound Recording and Reproduction</i> , MA: Focal Press, 2002.
3.	Alkin, Glyn. <i>Sound Techniques for Video & TV</i> , MA: Focal Press, 2002.
4.	Huber, David, Runstein, Robert E. <i>Modern Recording Techniques</i> , Woburn, MA: Focal Press, 2001.
5.	Katz, Bob. <i>Mastering Audio</i> , Burlington, MA: Focal Press, 2002.
6.	Bartlett, Bruce. Bartlett, Jenny. <i>Recording Music on Location</i> , USA: Focal Press, 2006.