

Professional Recording Arts (LIPA)

DIPLOMA PROGRAM



LaSalle College
Vancouver

QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4	QUARTER 5	QUARTER 6
PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio	PRA101 Digital Audio and Control Systems	PRA200 Acoustics	PRA201 Psychoacoustics	PRA202 Audio Electronics	PRA391 Senior Project
PRA110 Audio Technology I	PRA111 Audio Recording I	PRA112 Audio Recording II	PRA210 Advanced Recording Techniques I	PRA211 Advanced Recording Techniques II	PRA390 Professional Development and Portfolio
PRA120 Digital Music Technology I	PRA121 Digital Music Technology II	PRA220 Synthesis & Sound Design I	PRA221 Synthesis & Sound Design II	PRA212 Practical Audio Electronics	PRA250 Live Sound Reinforcement
PRA130 Digital Audio I	PRA131 Digital Audio II	PRA230 Digital Audio III	PRA231 Digital Audio IV	PRA243 Composition for Advertising	PRA260 Business Fundamentals
PRA140 Music Theory I	PRA141 Music Theory II	PRA240 Songwriting	PRA241 Music Arranging and Recording Technology	PRA242 Music Production for Visual Media	PRA340 Advanced Music Production for Visual Media
GE104 Rhetoric & Composition	GE114 Academic Writing	PRA280 Media Studies - Technology and Culture I	PRA281 Media Studies - Technology and Culture II	PRA380 Directed Studies I	PRA381 Directed Studies II

5 Audio Theory Courses 15 credits	+	1 Studio Prep Course 3 credits	+	4 Digital Music Technology Courses 12 credits	+	3 Adjunct Applied Audio Courses 9 credits	+	2 Professional Skills Courses 6 credits	+	2 Music Theory Courses 6 credits	+	4 Studio Courses 12 credits	+	4 Digital Audio Production Courses 12 credits	+	5 Music Courses 15 credits	+	6 Writing Courses 20 credits	=	TOTAL 110 CREDITS
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Professional Recording Arts (LIPA)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

QUARTER 1

PRA100 FUNDAMENTALS OF AUDIO
Students will be introduced to the foundational concepts in audio theory. They will learn about the nature of audio waveforms, principles behind audio hardware and software signal processors, the design and use of typical microphone types as well as understand the history of the recorded medium and its transition from analog to digital. In a practical component students will learn to distinguish between various frequency bands.
Credits: 3

PRA110 AUDIO TECHNOLOGY I
Introduction to professional audio recording equipment with an emphasis on its practical use in a hands on environment. The course content includes audio signal flow and digital multitrack recorder operations. The protocols and procedures of the professional audio industry will be discussed and followed in class. Students will also be exposed to the work habits, attitudes and expectations of the audio industry.
Credits: 3

PRA120 DIGITAL MUSIC TECHNOLOGY I
Students develop a working theoretical and skills-based knowledge of the multi-timbral synthesizer and the sequencing environment within the context of the contemporary MIDI production studio. Both live and studio applications are covered, including dynamic and static parameter automation.
Credits: 3

PRA130 DIGITAL AUDIO I
Digital Audio I introduces students to the concepts, procedures and techniques of non-linear digital audio editing. Through lectures and inclass projects, instruction covers digital audio theory and developing non-linear audio workstation skills. By the end of the course, students are ready to apply their skills to intermediate and advanced work in non-linear digital audio production effects and mixing.
Credits: 3

PRA140 MUSIC THEORY I
Students examine the fundamental concepts of music and its relationship to history and the technology used in composition and recording. A review of the terminology used by musicians, songwriters, arrangers, producers and engineers to communicate with each other is included. Music examples are used throughout and basic keyboarding skills are developed to apply to course material.
Credits: 3

GE100 RHETORIC & COMPOSITION
Writing is done for a purpose: to solve a problem, call for action, propose a solution, or create awareness. In this course students will consider their purpose for writing to state, develop, organize, and support an argument or position. This course emphasizes the critical arts of reading, writing, reflection, and discussion with an introduction to rhetoric, composition and informal logic of the English Language. The overall aim of this course is to enhance cognitive abilities and improve communication practices.
Prerequisite: Permission of the Academic Director
Credits: 4

QUARTER 2

PRA101 DIGITAL AUDIO AND CONTROL SYSTEMS
Students will learn the fundamentals of digital audio theory through examination of current and historical systems. The theory of control systems will be introduced through common music/audio based protocols leading to consideration of AV industry standards. A practical ear-training component will train students to listen critically and to aurally identify various features of audio signals.
Prerequisite: PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio
Credits: 3

PRA112 AUDIO RECORDING I
A project oriented, analog recording course where students will continue to develop their professional skills, work habits and attitudes expected by the modern professional recording industry. Working under the guidance of the instructor, students will undertake a variety of recording projects chosen to best exemplify the demands of the industry.
Prerequisite: PRA111 Audio Recording I
Credits: 3

PRA121 DIGITAL MUSIC TECHNOLOGY II
Students develop a detailed knowledge of the MIDI language. This leads to more flexible and in-depth uses of sequencers involving graphical and list-based editing, static and dynamic parameter and tempo automation, and the basic recording of MIDI messages. Professional skills are taught in a MIDI production studio using industry standard software and hardware.
Prerequisite: PRA120 Digital Music Technology I
Credits: 3

PRA131 DIGITAL AUDIO II
Students move beyond the basics of Pro Tools and digital audio skills. Topics include SMPTE time code and synchronization; computer based digital audio workstations, and Pro Tools software and hardware. Curriculum also covers sound design, field recording, digital audio transfer protocols, software-based effects plugins, and real-time automation. The course also includes instruction and practical experience using software samplers and synthesizers with Pro Tools and the integration of MIDI control surfaces.
Prerequisite: PRA130 Digital Audio I
Credits: 3

PRA141 MUSIC THEORY II
Students develop keyboard and theoretical musical skills. Practical keyboard skills are fused with relevant theoretical concepts necessary for success in advanced music composition courses.
Prerequisite: PRA140 Music Theory I
Credits: 3

GE111 ACADEMIC WRITING
The key purposes of this course are to help students improve their academic writing capabilities and to help students prepare for writing in post-secondary education and professional settings. Emphasis will be placed upon crafting the best form of expression for specific audiences and purposes. As students gain confidence with the vocabulary of language analysis and rhetorical strategy, the more features of style and argument they will recognize and use.
Prerequisite: GE100 Rhetoric and Composition
Credits: 4

QUARTER 3

PRA200 ACOUSTICS
Students are introduced to the theoretical concepts of acoustics and acoustic design. They will learn to measure and evaluate acoustic spaces and develop an understanding of both the acoustical and electronic approaches to acoustic correction. Examples of studio and listening room acoustics will be examined. A practical ear-training component will teach the ability to identify and distinguish acoustical properties of spaces.
Prerequisite: PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio
Credits: 3

PRA112 AUDIO RECORDING II
A project oriented, analog recording course where students will continue to develop their professional skills, work habits and attitudes expected by the modern professional recording industry. Working under the guidance of the instructor, students will undertake a variety of recording projects chosen to best exemplify the demands of the industry.
Prerequisite: PRA111 Audio Recording I
Credits: 3

PRA220 SYNTHESIS & SOUND DESIGN I
Students learn MIDI and basic synthesis skills for music production and sound design, and develop familiarity with sound design concepts using subtractive synthesis methods. Topics covered include configuring and maintaining a complex MIDI studio through a multiport interface, use of programmable or MIDI based hardware interfaces, advanced sequencing concepts, automating parameters in external MIDI devices, subtractive synthesis basics and audio recording in a sequencing environment.
Prerequisite: PRA121 Digital Music Technology II
Credits: 3

PRA230 DIGITAL AUDIO III
This course is designed to take the basics of DAW operations to an advanced level through hands-on training and projects related to the post and music industries. The focus will be on increasing speed and efficiency using Pro Tools and the artistic side of editing and mixing. Instructor and student feedback and evaluation of projects will be encouraged throughout all stages of project development. The projects for the course will include three music mixes of different styles; a remix of one song using software based samplers and synthesizers; a project using a short film where students will have to edit all the ADR and dialogue, create and edit sound effects, music and backgrounds and complete a mix all using proper post-production techniques for organization and editing.
Prerequisite: PRA131 Digital Audio II
Credits: 3

PRA240 SONGWRITING
Songwriting is a study of the elements that make a successful song. Students analyze the characteristics of all song genres with respect to form, melody, harmony, arrangement, and production techniques. Students also write and record an original song as a final project.
Prerequisites: PRA121 Digital Music Technology II and PRA141 Music Theory II
Credits: 3

PRA280 MEDIA STUDIES - TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE I
This course explores the impact technology has on representing and shaping the way a culture thinks about itself and the world. The curriculum reviews various theoretical positions, and although contemporary North American culture is the central focus, the course examines other cultures with particular attention paid to comparing and contrasting attitudes, beliefs and impacts of technological change. Media Studies Technology & Culture is especially valuable to those who work with technology on a regular basis, particularly in the entertainment industries, who want perspective on the broader implications of technology and its role in cultural identity and development.
Credits: 3

QUARTER 4

PRA201 PSYCHOACOUSTICS
This course builds on and expands the development of critical listening skills and the introduction of psychoacoustics and cognition. Topics covered include: perception of pitch, loudness and timbre; structure of the ear; hearing damage; voice physics and neurology; consonance, dissonance and tuning systems; auditory stream and source segregation and perceptual fusion and auditory perspective.
Prerequisite: PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio
Credits: 3

PRA210 ADVANCED RECORDING TECHNIQUES I
This course incorporates the skills needed to integrate the various technologies of, and engineer in, a hybrid digital/analog recording studio environment. Students explore digital audio theory and interact with analog consoles, digital recorders, external DSP, software signal routing, interfacing equipment, and synchronizing digital audio streams. Topics include linear digital audio, digital filtering, analog-to-digital/digital-to-analogue conversion, dithering, error correction and concealment, digital storage media, encoding methods involving data compression, digital audio interface standards, DAW interchange standards and synchronization methods.
Prerequisite: PRA112 Audio Recording II
Credits: 3

PRA221 SYNTHESIS & SOUND DESIGN II
This course will survey both commercially available synthesis methods and recent developments at audio research institutes. Students will also survey the current market for hardware and software implementations of various synthesis methods. Analytical listening sessions will expose students to synthesis methods in various musical contexts. Detailed study of subtractive, FM, physical modeling and granular synthesis will culminate in original sound design projects.
Prerequisite: PRA220 Synthesis & Sound Design I
Credits: 3

PRA231 DIGITAL AUDIO IV
This course introduces students to the DAW in a studio environment. Students learn to conduct tracking sessions and both stereo and surround mix sessions using a control surface, sync all elements of a production using SMPTE timecode, understand the pre-mastering process and be able to deliver final projects in current delivery formats.
Prerequisite: PRA230 Digital Audio III
Credits: 3

PRA241 MUSIC ARRANGING AND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY
Students study approaches to arranging as it relates to computer-based technology. This course is valuable to both non-musicians (audio engineers and producers) and musicians (arrangers and composers). Students submit weekly projects on paper, as MIDI files, or audio files. Topics include traditional concepts relating to controlling arrangement flow for live musicians, arranging for sections (rhythm, strings, brass, vocal), chord extensions and substitutions, voicing, beat creation, melodic development, harmonization, computer-based performance techniques, remix techniques and arrangement planning and execution.
Prerequisites: PRA141 Music Theory II and PRA220 Synthesis & Sound Design I
Credits: 3

PRA281 MEDIA STUDIES - TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE II
This course continues to explore the impact technology has on representing and shaping the way a culture thinks about itself and the world. The curriculum reviews various theoretical positions, and although contemporary North American culture is the central focus, the course examines other cultures with particular attention paid to comparing and contrasting attitudes, beliefs and impacts of technological change. Media Studies Technology & Culture is especially valuable to those who work with technology on a regular basis, particularly in the entertainment industries, who want perspective on the broader implications of technology and its role in cultural identity and development.
Prerequisite: PRA280 Media Studies - Technology and Culture I
Credits: 3

QUARTER 5

PRA202 AUDIO ELECTRONICS
This course is an introduction to the theoretical foundation of analog audio electronics with a complete overview of all basic components and main principles.
Prerequisite: PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio
Credits: 3

PRA211 ADVANCED RECORDING TECHNIQUES II
Students develop advanced engineering skills and knowledge. Building upon the knowledge gained in previous studio courses, they will continue to master the techniques and equipment used in the professional recording industry. They will also become familiar with various musical formats, and the aesthetic and acoustical issues specific to each genre and instrument.
Prerequisite: PRA210 Advanced Recording Techniques I
Credits: 3

PRA212 PRACTICAL AUDIO ELECTRONICS
This course examines the recording studio from an electronics perspective, following a systems approach which emphasizes the integration of various equipment and formats. Topics include: basic audio circuitry components and their functions, test equipment, audio mixer signal flow and circuitry; system grounding issues; interfacing issues; patch bays; balanced lines; soldering techniques; project constructions; non-audio cables; cabling and connectors.
Prerequisite: PRA110 Audio Technology I
Corequisite: PRA202 Audio Electronics
Credits: 3

PRA243 COMPOSITION FOR ADVERTISING
Student gains knowledge encompassing all areas of audio for broadcast advertising. From getting the project, assessing client needs, strategizing creative planning and producing creative through to final delivery and follow up. Course will cover all areas of creative including original music, sound design, voiceover casting and production for production and comedy campaigns. Course designed for the student to be capable in all areas of the process, enabling them to be valuable in all areas of the industry.
Prerequisites: PRA141 Music Theory II and PRA220 Synthesis & Sound Design I
Credits: 3

PRA242 MUSIC PRODUCTION FOR VISUAL MEDIA
This course starts by analyzing contemporary musical and sound design trends in TV and film work. The analysis includes both music theory and investigations of the technology behind the production. With a new found understanding of the demands of current production values, students go on to create their own music projects, developing their music theory and technical expertise. Finally, the course investigates the business aspects of creating music for the film and TV industries, covering practical considerations to get a career started.
Prerequisites: PRA141 Music Theory II and PRA220 Synthesis & Sound Design I
Credits: 3

PRA380 DIRECTED STUDIES I
Students work independently on projects and papers as per agreements made with their LIPA mentor. Agreements include the definition, scope, assessment criteria, and timelines of the student's projects and papers. The course requires that students write a number of papers focused on critical analysis of their work in other courses, and in related areas of the recording arts.
Prerequisite: GE100 Rhetoric and Composition
Credits: 3

QUARTER 6

PRA391 SENIOR PROJECT
This course initiates a two quarter long comprehensive project which will be integral to students' final portfolios. Students will employ their cumulative skills to pre-produce a significant, sophisticated, multi-track digital audio work. Committee and/or faculty will approve the project content and type of the audio work. Projects will be carried out individually or in groups based on the needs of the class as determined by the instructor.
Prerequisite: Permission of the Academic Director
Credits: 3

PRA390 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PORTFOLIO
Built on the skills developed in previous courses, this course allows each student to determine and design the final organization and presentation of the graduation portfolio. Each student is expected to verbally present the portfolio and address audience questions as a format of defense.
Prerequisite: Permission of the Academic Director
Credits: 3

PRA250 LIVE SOUND REINFORCEMENT I
In this course students learn to design, operate and troubleshoot small to medium-sized PA systems, and to overcome the problems inherent in difficult acoustical environments. Students are exposed to the audio systems and acoustical environments encountered in live sound situations (sound reinforcement for performances, speeches and lectures, MC/ DJ systems). Signal flow and troubleshooting skills are continually reinforced in the process of setting up and tearing down complete sound systems during classes. There is also a theory component to the course, which supports the practical application.
Prerequisites: PRA100 Fundamentals of Audio and PRA110 Audio Technology I
Credits: 3

PRA260 BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS
Students gain valuable knowledge and skills to prepare them for being self-employed in the media entertainment industry. Freelancing, contracts, invoices, records, communications, marketing and taxes are practical topics that are addressed.
Credits: 3

PRA340 SCORING FOR FILM AND TELEVISION
Using the technical and creative skills acquired in previous music composition courses, students further develop their compositional and technical skills through the production of several pieces to accompany sections of film. With the instructor's guidance, students pay particular attention to different textures, instruments and tools used in film scoring to convey theme, mood and emotion to enhance the audience's viewing experience. Students are introduced to the processes and practicalities of writing for film, television dramas and documentaries, and providing library music. The students' final projects involve working with Digital Film & Video students to score their student films. The course allows students to experiment musically and discover their strengths and individual styles.
Prerequisite: PRA242 Music for Television and Film
Credits: 3

PRA381 DIRECTED STUDIES II
Students work independently on projects and papers as per agreements made with their LIPA mentor. Agreements include the definition, scope, assessment criteria, and timelines of the student's projects and papers. The course requires that students write a number of papers focused on critical analysis of their work in other courses, and in related areas of the recording arts.
Prerequisite: PRA380 Directed Studies I
Credits: 3

***Where no prerequisite is provided, none is required.*

**Course descriptions describe the learning opportunities that are provided through the classroom and coursework. It is each student's responsibility to participate in the activities that will lead to successfully meeting the learning outcomes.*



PROFESSIONAL RECORDING ARTS KIT

price: \$320.00

1. Headphones Audio-Technica ATH-M50X. 10462911
2. Metropolis Bag 10422489
3. 32GB USB Flash Drive 10448427



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Kit V. Feb 16 2018

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