CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
MUSC2410

Sound Reinforcement I
Semester/Year: Fall 2006

Lecture Hours: 2 Lab Hours: 0 Credit Hours: 2

Class Time: 5:10 – 6:15 pm (6:20) usually
Days: Monday and Wednesday.
Room: FA 305

Instructor’s Name: Paul W. Searcey

Instructor's Contact Information: Leave a message on the office phone, or call me at home before 8:00 pm
Office Phone: 268-3006 Email: Choose one or both!
Home Phone: 473-1043 psearcey@caspercollege.edu
Cell Phone: 267-5236 Paul_Searcey@ncsd.k12.wy.us

Office Hours: 4:15 to 5:00 on class days

Course Description: Introduction to the theory, techniques, and equipment used in sound reinforcement and recording. Topics include acoustics, microphones, studio design, analog and digital recorders, live soundboards and controls, amplifiers, psychoacoustics, and effects.

Statement of Prerequisites: Sophomore standing preferred, Community and BOCES students welcome

Goal: To present students with the information, theory, and philosophy of live sound equipment and its usage. Students will understand this knowledge in a practical sense by hands-on experience with the audio equipment.

Outcomes: To give the students background and specific information on the concepts involving the use of 1) microphones and their proper application, 2) recording techniques, 3) acoustics and psychoacoustics, 4) studio design, 5) equalization terms and techniques, 6) the live sound board and its controls, 7) effects and their application, and 8) analog and digital applications in audio, for their own use and as preparation for MUSC 2420, Sound Reinforcement II.

Methodology: Primarily lecture/demonstration sessions with hands-on use of sound reinforcement equipment and field trips to locations in Casper with sound consoles. Students will be given opportunity to work with school-owned equipment in class and possibly help record the All State Music Tryouts.

Evaluation Criteria: Evaluation of students is based on participation and by written exams and quizzes on material covered in class and/or the text. Examinations may include some of the physical processes of sound reinforcement such as patching and set up of equipment.

Class Policies: Students are expected to be on time and in class each session. With this being a hands-on class, it is difficult to understand someone else’s notes. Students are also expected to do their weekly assignments and be prepared when a reading assignment is given.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: See current catalog

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president for academic affairs.

Academic Dishonesty - Cheating & Plagiarism: Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

ADA Accommodations Policy: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

Course Content Schedule: The following topics will be taken sequentially. In addition, students are required to attend at least one field trip to sound consoles in the Casper area. The field trips will be scheduled to accommodate the activities of the students.

Topic Outline

Sound and Hearing (Chapters 1 & 2)
Properties of Sound
The Ear and Hearing
Sound Velocity, Length, and Phase
Timbre
Acoustics and Psycho acoustics (Chapter 3)
Haas Effect
Sound and Reflections
Studio Design
Equipment (Chapters 4 - 9)

Microphones
Cables
Consoles
Analog Recording
Digital Recording
Signal Processing and Effects
Loudspeakers and Monitoring
Amplifiers (Handouts)
Distant Miking (Chapter 11)
Close Miking (Chapter 12)

Possible Field Trips

Where: Casper Events Center  When: TBA  What: Look at the equipment, soundboard, and problems of running sound in a large venue.  Guest Speaker: Paul Hansen

Where: Highland Park Community Church  When: TBA.  Check with the instructor for exact time.  What: Look at and work the equipment, soundboard, and problems of miking and mixing a rhythm section, vocal group, drama group, and speakers.  Hands on experience mixing the group.