

TRANSITION WORK



MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 2021

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Subject teacher: John Fleetwood

Welcome to A level Music Technology!

Dear Students, I am Mr Fleetwood, and I am delighted that you have chosen to take A level Music Technology and I look forward to working with you all.

In preparation for September, please read through the following carefully.

Please also note that if you have the facilities to record and produce music at home, I will highly encourage working on Music-Related projects in preparation for you're the start of Year One.

We will be using **Logic Pro X** to work with as a DAW, but if you are currently producing Music on DAW's like Garageband, Ableton, FL Studio, Cubase or similar, please continue to as this experience will be invaluable.

If you have not already started creating music with Music Technology, I would recommend downloading Garageband if you have access to a Mac (It's Free!) or Ableton 10 Lite (Also Free!) / WaveForm Pro (Still Free!) to begin to create some music Digitally. All the programs have Starter Guides and Online lessons designed to help you get producing quickly and effectively.

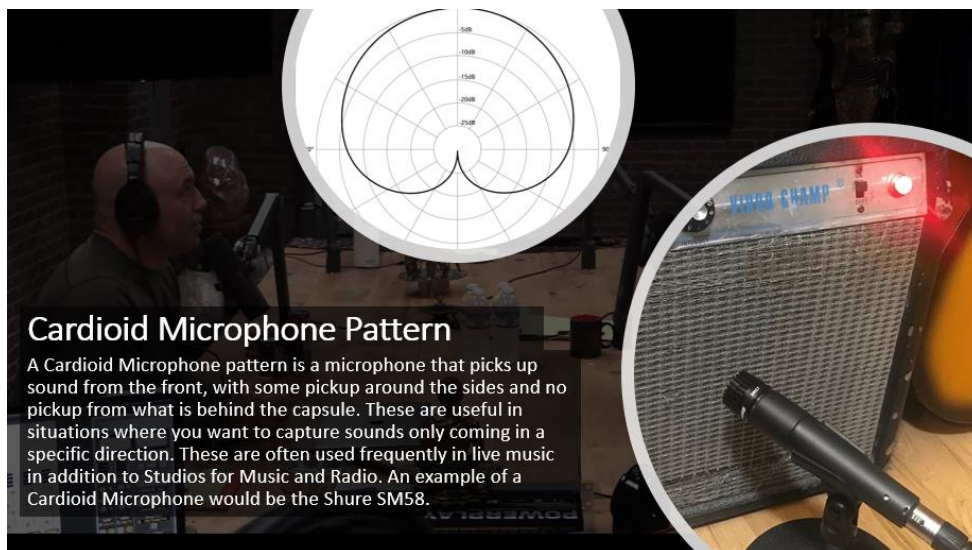
Please complete the following tasks in preparation for our class lessons in September.

TASK 1 – Recording Techniques Glossary

Create a PowerPoint or Worksheet for that explores the following terms as they relate to **Music Technology**. I would encourage exploring what **they are**, **what they do**, and **how and when they are used**. Please put these in your own words wherever possible as this will be used as a Glossary for your own use. I would encourage the use of photos, pictures, videos, and diagrams.

- DAW
- Polar Pattern
- XLR
- Phantom Power
- Condenser Microphone
- Dynamic Microphone
- Panning (LR)
- EQ
- TRS Cable
- DI
- Compressor

Here is an example slide.



This should take around 2 – 3 Hours.

Please complete this, print it, and bring it with you, for our first lesson in September.

TASK 2 – Sound Palette

In the same way a Colour Palette is used in Visual Art as a way to plan out the visual foundations of a piece, a Sound Palette is used in the same way for composing. When composing with Music Technology, it is important to understand the Mood and Sonority of what you are creating, especially when creating Music in response to a brief.

Within Music Technology, we can use Production Techniques, to Sculpt, Edit, Manipulate and Shape sounds in order to create new Sonorities through Sound Design.

On the following page is the piece “Structure” by Daniel Toumine from 2017.

Create a Sound Palette for “Structure” that consists of a **MINIMUM** of 10 sounds that represent, embody or Personify the painting.

You can use your phone via Voice Memo’s or a portable recording device to capture these sounds. Here are some ideas for what you can do to capture these sounds;

- *Go outside and find sounds in Nature, or in public.*
- *Play a musical instrument in an unconventional or irregular way to create new sounds.*
- *Find objects or appliances that make noises they shouldn’t that remind you of “Structure”.*
- *Sounds made by objects that look like / are similar to “Structure”.*
- *Recording people being asked describe “Structure” in a word.*

In addition to this, please accompany these sounds with a short document that details where the sounds were from, how you captured them, and why they are related / linked to “Structure”. Please do not download samples from the internet, all sounds must be recorded by you.

This should take you 5-6 Hours to complete

Please complete this, have all audio filed and downloaded on a USB stick or Hard drive, and bring it with you, with the Accompanying Document for our first lesson in September.



"Structure" by Daniel Toumine

TASK 3 – PRODUCTION EFFECTS GLOSSARY

Create a PowerPoint for that explores the following **Audio Effects**. I would encourage describing **what they sound like in your own words**. I would recommend watching “**Sound Basics with Stella**” from Waves Audio in addition to “**EFFECTS 101**” by Rolandmedia on Youtube. For those wanting to dive a little deeper, I would recommend the “**Reverb Tone Report**” that go more in depth.

- Delay
- Reverb
- Flanger
- Chorus
- Distortion
- Vocoder

Using your knowledge from Task 4, listen to the following songs and their timestamp and **identify what effect is being prominently used**. Please use **the original recording on Spotify / Apple Music and NOT the Music Video** of the songs.

- “**Just the Way You Are**” by **Billy Joel** (0:00 – 0:40)
- “**Leaving** ” by **Andy Stott** (0:00-0:38)
- “**21st Century Schizoid Man**” by **King Crimson** (1:22 – 1:37)
- “**So Heavy I Fell Through The Earth**” by **Grimes** (1:08-1:40)
- “**The Prophet’s Song**” by **Queen** (03:23 – 05:50)
- “**Hopeless**” by **Halsey** (0:54 – 1:34)
- “**Walking on the Moon**” by **The Police** (0:05 - 0:34)
- “**Future Starts Slow**” by **The Kills** (0:15 – 0:30)
- “**I Ran**” by **A Flock of Seagulls** (01:06 – 01:20)
- “**One More Time**” by **Daft Punk** (01:03 – 01:31)
- “**Hide and Seek**” by **Imogen Heap** (0:00-0:35)
- “**Feeling Good**” by **MUSE** (01:23-01:47)

Once you have identified the effect used in each of the tracks, please put them in your PowerPoint as references for your Effects Glossary.

In addition to the above effects, please crate **one slide each** for the following.

- The difference between **Wet** and **Dry** in the context of Music Production.
- The purpose of **Automation** in Music Effects.

This should take around 2 – 3 Hours.

Please complete this and bring it with you, for our first lesson in September.



For September: I am expecting all Composing with Music Technology, Synthesis and the Studio Effects Glossary to be handed in.

You will receive a course booklet which outlines, in detail, each of the four parts of the course:

Component 1 - Recording

Component 2 - Composing

Component 3 - Listening and Analysing

Component 4 - Producing and Analysing

FINALLY AND VERY IMPORTANT

Prepare a separate **Memory Stick** or a **Portable Hard Drive** to save work and Projects on. You will need this to store coursework on.

Furthermore please prepare a folder file to store lesson work in and / on, in addition to your usual class equipment.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you all September!

Mr Fleetwood

May 2021