

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DF2004 (DF8001)
Course Title	Sound in Media
Pre-requisites	NIL
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours studio contact

Course Aims

In this introductory course you will examine sound and hearing in the media context. Theories of sound and hearing will be discussed and the role of sound in media investigated, as you examine historical, technical, cultural, social and material perspectives. Natural and man-made soundscapes and the impact of new technology on sound reproduction, noise reduction and sound dissemination will be examined through the lens of sound as a cultural artifact. You will gain hands-on experience in recording and editing sound for various media applications including sound for image, to facilitate an understanding of the aesthetics of sound in media.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Critically analyse and discuss the use of sound in media using multiple approaches.
2. Demonstrate critical listening skills in order to understand, analyse and discuss sound and its fundamental properties.
3. Discuss the history of sound recording and dissemination with an emphasis on its cultural impact.
4. Record and edit sound for use in relevant media applications.
5. Discuss techniques of the use of sound for narrative purposes and constructively critique your classmates work.

Course Content

In this course you will receive an overview of sound and its use in media. Theories of sound derived from sound studies will inform our discussions as we examine how sound is employed in time-based media. Hands-on projects will be used to investigate the material aspect of sound recording and dissemination. Critical listening skills will be developed and applied to the analysis of sound and its role in media.

What is sound?

Overview of the physics of sound and psychoacoustics. Frequency, amplitude, pitched and non-pitched sounds. Noise and types of noise. Listening to sound and developing a vocabulary to discuss it critically. Sound in cultural context.

Hearing and Listening

Listen modes and phenomenologies of sound. Why we heard what we hear, the politics of sound. Sound that is privileged, sound that is ignored.

Sound Recording and Dissemination

The history of sound recording from Edison to the present, from technical, cultural and material perspectives. The dissemination of sound recording from radio to the podcast, wax cylinders to mp3s. How to record and edit sound with a consideration of media aesthetics.

Sound and Image

The use of sound with image from sound installation to T.V to Film. Sound in narrative and soundscape. Synchronisation of sound and image, synchresis and sound/image relationships.

Class assignments

You will produce three creative projects that demonstrate an understanding of sound in media and recording techniques. There will be one class presentation and two quizzes based on lectures and reading. Classes will include mini-lectures, demonstrations, and activities that may be included in the assessment.