

Advising: Establish Study Habits

- As students transition from high school to college, they often need to change their study habits (or develop them for the first time). They also often need to learn how to be proactive when they encounter academic challenges.
- This lesson will help students consider their study habits and techniques and identify appropriate academic resources on campus.

Questions

- Thinking more generally about all the work you've done at Gustavus so far
 - Are the strategies and skills you used in high school still working for you?
 - Do you expect they will work/continue to work for you in the future?

Questions

- What study skills or habits worked well for you in high school?
- Did you use those same study skills/habits in the assignment you wrote about?
 - What worked?
 - What did not?
 - How do you know if something worked or did not work?

Overview: Final Project Your Own Composition

- **Start: Monday, 10/3.**
- **Free writings due: Friday, 12/2, by the start of class (normal late penalty applies).**
- **Technical essays due: Thursday, 12/15, by 6pm (no late projects accepted!) .**
- **Both on Moodle.**
- The idea is you will work on various parts of the final project from now until the end of the course (as well as other projects: project 2 and project 3)

Example

- Let's look at some examples of the type of music you aim to make:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2aWEM1nnNg>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbmeYncFrMA>

Project Detail

- You will work continuously throughout the semester and submit two phases of your work separately (on two different dates)
- The first phase starts on Monday, 10/3, during which you are to collect sound samples on a regular basis. You can collect sound many different ways.
 - For example, you can record the sound objects made using devices such as a cell phone (this is called field recording).
 - Or, you can take a pre-existing sound (such as the audio part of a video, or parts of a song) and manipulate them (this is called sampling).

For More Information (and Ideas)

- <http://www.factmag.com/2014/11/18/a-beginners-guide-to-field-recording/>
- <https://music.tutsplus.com/tutorials/a-beginners-guide-to-field-recording-pt-1--audio-1785>
- <https://music.tutsplus.com/tutorials/a-beginners-guide-to-field-recording-pt-2--audio-1877>
- Or type: “beginner’s guide to field recording” on Google.
- We will be covering the history of field recordings and Musique Concrete later (during our “History of Electronic Music” project).

Project Detail: Phase 1

- Along with each sound sample, you must provide an inspiration. An inspiration could be a picture, a song, a video clip, a piece of writing etc.
- This is to ensure that the sound you had collected means something to you.
- And, for each sound sample (and inspiration) you must provide a piece of free writing (under 1 page) articulating why the sound sample is meaningful to you.
- An example would be the recording of a news report on a major event. The inspiration would be a picture of the event, and the free writing would articulate why this event is meaningful to you.

Project Detail: Phase 1

- Your sound samples, inspirations, and free writings are due on Friday, 12/2, by the start of class. In the following format:
- All of your sound sample must be of .mp3 extension.
- All your free writings must be written in Microsoft Word (thus of .doc extension).
- **All of your inspirations, sound samples and free writings must be organized in the format specified in the project (that is worth points).**
- You are all college students, this is to test your ability to read and follow instructions. If you fail the submit the project in the format specified, points will be deducted.

Project Details: Phase 1

- First phase: you had submitted 6 sound samples, each of your sound samples is accompanied by a piece of short writing and an inspiration, 2 point.
- First phase: your sound samples, short writings and inspirations are all in the correct format, 1 point.
- First phase: your zip file is structured correctly, 1 point.
- First phase: your free writings are well structured paragraphs, 4 points.
- First phase: critical thinking is evident in your free writings, 4 points.

Project Details: Phase 1

- The first part of the project is due due on Friday, 12/2, by the start of class. You have 2 months time to put together 6 entries.
- **I DO NOT WANT TO SEE LAST MINUTE PANIC**, and that you come and see me a few days before the due date panicking. Or that you tell me about putting together 5 entries in a week. I will get mad and I will take points off from your participation points.

Wednesday, 10/5

- We will go outside and do field recording tomorrow.
- We will meet inside the class room and go outside together.
- Homework: download a sound recording software. I will check tomorrow. **If you do not have any sound recording software downloaded by Wednesday or have any methods of recording.** I will take off points from participation (I had mentioned this in class multiple times).

Project Details: Phase 2

- The second phase of this project starts when you had made your initial phase submission (on Friday, 12/2).
- During which you will put all the sound you had collected into one composition (using Audacity).
- You can manipulate your sound however you like.
- Finally, your composition must present an interesting and cohesive idea, of which you will explain via writing.
- Your composition must be of .mp3 extension (you can make the conversion using Audacity).

Project Detail: Phase 2

- In your technical essay you must also present the techniques used in your composition, you must explain them clearly in writing, present a brief survey, and cite all the publications (books or articles) in proper format.
- For example, if I decided to use Musique Concrete as the main technique in my composition, I will need to explain in writing what Musique Concrete is; how it is typically used in compositions, and present a brief survey on the use through music history.
- Thus before making your final composition you must go to the library and research on the techniques you plan to use. After you had decided on the technique(s), you should take the books home, you will need to paraphrase them in your writing.

Project Detail: Phase 2

- With your composition you will submit a technical essay. Your technical essay is very important as it explains the two main components of your composition: the idea you are trying to convey and the techniques you had used.
- In your technical essay you must present the message in your composition. You will write a cohesive story-like narrative that outlines the thought process you had gone through from formulating the idea to finalizing it.
- Your narrative must connect all the free writings you had submitted to me.

Project Detail: Phase 2

- Thus before making your final composition you must go to the library and research on the techniques you plan to use. After you had decided on the technique(s), you should take the books home, you will need to paraphrase them in your writing.
- We have scheduled a library day (happening soon) to get you started on that.

Project Detail: Phase 2

- Finally, your technical essay must have a clear structure that includes an introduction, related work (which gives a survey on the history and evolution of the technique), a story-like narrative, a section describing how the technique is used in your composition, and a conclusion.

Project Detail: Phase 2

- Second phase: your composition echos the ideas described in your technical essay, 2 point.
- Second phase: you used the techniques described in your technical essay in your composition in meaningful ways, 2 point.
- Second phase: your composition presents an interesting and cohesive idea, 2 point.
- Second phase: your technical essay have a clear structure that includes an introduction, related work, an narrative, a section describing how the technique is used, and a conclusion, 2 point.
- Second phase: you gave a story-like narrative describing the message you are trying to convey via your composition, 4 points.
- Second phase: you gave a good survey on the techniques used in your composition, 2 points
- All of your citations are in proper format, 2 points.