

Course Syllabus

MUSC 2453 (4:3:4)

Live Sound III

Live Sound/Sound Reinforcement Certificate

Sound Technology Program

Technical Education Division

Levelland Campus

South Plains College

Fall 2025/Spring 2026

Creative Arts Department - South Plains College - Levelland Campus

Course Syllabus

Course Title: ***MUSC 2453 Live Sound III (4:3:4)***

Instructor: ***Matt Quick***

Office: ***CB 138 - Telephone: (806) 716 2472 – voicemail configured.***
E-mail: mquick@southplainscollege.edu

Office Hours: ***As posted on instructor's door***

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I. General Course Information:

MUSC 2453 Live Sound III will be taught as a Flex course. We will be meeting face to face for lecture/lab time. This will be supplemented with several online learning tools including lecture notes, and video demonstrations.

- A. Description: Advanced concepts of live sound engineering for front-of-house mix. Includes techniques required to build and maintain a live sound mix for an audience. Students will be responsible for mixing front-of-house for designated performances. MUSC 1405 is a prerequisite for this course.
- B. End of Course Outcomes: Create and maintain a front-of-house mix; demonstrate routing and utilization of effects and dynamic processors; explain signal flow and interconnection of components; and troubleshoot front-of-house sound systems. Develop understanding and recognition of different musical genres, and common instruments.
- C. Course Competencies: Upon completion of this course, each student will have demonstrated through comprehensive examinations, a competent understanding of: front of house signal flow, advanced console operations, advanced dynamic and effects processing, ear training and mixing techniques for live sound.
- D. Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. Students should refer to the SPC General Catalog, regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism (see "Academic Integrity" as well as "Student Conduct" sections).
- E. SCANS: This course is designed to meet the following SCANS and Foundation skills criteria: C3, C4, C6, C9, C11, C13, C15, C17, C18, C19, C20, F5, F6, F7, F9, F11, F15, and F16. A complete list of SCANS Competencies and Foundation Skills are located on the last page of the syllabus.
- F. Verification: This course will provide the student with their capstone experience. The student must provide a professional level mix for one of the performances during the end of semester fest week.

II. **Specific Course/Instructor Requirements:**

- A. Textbook and Other Materials: Handouts and other resources provided by instructor as needed.
- B. Attendance Policy: Punctual and regular attendance is expected of all students. Students are responsible for all missed material. If a student is absent on a day that an assignment/assessment is given, **the student will not be allowed to make up the assignment/assessment unless the absence is an excused absence.** Passwords for the assignment/assessments will not be given if the absence is unexcused. For an absence to qualify as excused the student must contact the instructor via email prior to the class meeting and provide their reason for not attending. Based on the reason given by the student, the instructor will determine if the absence qualifies as excused or unexcused. Any student not present at roll taking will be given an unexcused absence unless the student has provided prior notification. There will be a daily attendance grade that will average and count as 20% of your final grade. Tardiness and unexcused absences will result in a 0 for the daily attendance grade. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class.
- C. Assignment/Assessment Policy: Assignments/assessments will be announced during class. Students will be given a password to access the assignment/assessment via Blackboard. Due dates will be provided.
- D. Grading Policy/Procedure: The student's final grade will be made up of a weighted average of at least one written test (10%), quiz average (10%), mixing assignments (10%), lab assignments (10%), daily attendance (20%) and course competencies (40%). A list of the required course competencies will be attached to this syllabus. Each competency is worth 10 points; however, a student must achieve at least 7 out of the 10 points in every competency to complete the competency requirement. Non completion of the competencies equals a 0% for the competency portion of the student's grade. Grading format: A= 90-100%, B= 80-89%, C= 70-79%, D= 60-69%, F= 0-59%
- E. Special Requirements: MUSC 1405 is a prerequisite/ co requisite. Students will be responsible for arranged lab activities and mixing front of house for designated events.

III. **Course Outline:**

Topic Outline:

Front of House system orientation
Front of House console operation
Basic mixing Techniques
Equalization
Dynamic Processing
Effects Processing
Test
The Musical Engineer
Mixing Hierarchies
Ear Training
Mixing Monitors from Front of House
Mix Practice
Mixing Tests/Final

Instructor reserves the right to modify this at any time.

IV. ***Accommodations***

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Course Competencies for MUSC 2453

1	Can turn on/off an audio system correctly
2	Understands the signal flow of a FOH audio system
3	Communicate the roles and responsibilities of a professional FOH mix engineer
4	Understands input section of an industry standard console (pad/digital trim, preamp, polarity reverse, phantom)
5	Understands equalizer section & HPF of an industry standard console
6	Understands aux sends including aux masters (pre & post fader)
7	Understands signal routing concepts including subgroups
8	Understands signal control concepts (vca group masters)
9	Understands signal control concepts (mute groups, scene recall)
10	Understands a console's matrix
11	Can bring an input into a mix safely & smoothly using appropriate gain structure
12	Can patch/apply a compressor for dynamic range control
13	Can patch/apply a noise gate for dynamic range control
14	Can patch/apply an effects processor
15	Identify variety of musical genres
16	Can create a mix that is appropriate for different genres of music
17	Can maintain control of a mix during a live performance
18	Identify a variety of musical instruments and their frequency spectrum
19	Demonstrate understanding of micing techniques for common instruments