



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Australia's  
Global  
University



# MUSC3805

Audio Culture

Term 2 // 2019

## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Dr. Adam Hulbert	<a href="mailto:a.hulbert@unsw.edu.au">a.hulbert@unsw.edu.au</a>	In the hour following tutorial, or by appointment	Room 108 Robert Webster	9385 1115

### School Contact Information

Room 312, level 3 Robert Webster Building

Phone: (02) 9385 4856

Email: [sam@unsw.edu.au](mailto:sam@unsw.edu.au)

Website: <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au>

The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

### Attendance Requirements

A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

For more information about the attendance protocols in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

## **Academic Information**

For essential student information relating to: requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health and safety; examination procedures; special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure; student equity and disability; and other essential academic information, see <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

## **Course Details**

### **Credit Points 6**

### **Summary of the Course**

Subject Area: *Music*

This course sets out to acquaint you with the diverse and burgeoning field of Sound Studies. The field of Sound will be situated in relation to current issues and polemics, as well as to historical, aesthetic, and cultural contexts. We will assess the evolution of electronic media, and its influence on culture at large. We will evaluate key moments in the practices of sound recording technology, electronic music, and sonic art. Through readings, discussion, listening and ethnographic studies, you will engage with Sound Studies in the Western tradition and beyond, thereby positing your own musical practice within a wider cultural context. Themes addressed in a given semester may include: Sound recording technology and the impact of media technologies on listening, performing and composing; The codification of listening; Sound, place-making and soundwalks; Sound and memory; Noise; New media installations; The Mp3, compression and the music economy; Radiophonics; Synaesthesia.

### **At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to**

1. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the field of Sound Studies
2. Describe the important movements and key issues in Sound Studies
3. Deploy analytical, critical and listening skills
4. Engage in independent and self-directed learning
5. Engage with various sound media and audio cultures in a critical, informed and analytical way

### **Teaching Strategies**

Weekly assigned reading and listening materials will connect with the lecture material delivered in a given week, and will inform the specific content of the tutorial discussion or presentation. Students are encouraged, in online lectures and tutorials, to engage in discussion and questioning, informed by their critical reading and listening on the subject.

## Assessment

All assignments should be properly referenced using UNSW Harvard (<https://student.unsw.edu.au/harvard-referencing>). Referencing is not included in the word count.

### Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Essay	40%	Friday of week 10, 5 pm	1,2,4
Research assignments	60%	These two assignments (30% each) are due Friday of weeks 4 & 7 at 5pm.	3,4,5

### Assessment Details

#### Assessment 1: Essay

**Length:** 2500 words

**Details:** Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade.

**Additional details:**

Formal research essay. See Moodle for essay question and further details.

**Submission notes:** submit via Moodle

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin reports.

#### Assessment 2: Research assignments

**Length:** 1800 words or 2-4 min composition + 900 words

**Details:** Choice of written work, compositional response or listening analysis. Written feedback, rubric and a grade supplied by tutor. Further details available on Moodle.

**Submission notes:** These assignments are due weeks 5, 8, and 13. Friday at 5pm.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin reports.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their names and student numbers on every page of their assignments.

## Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on [externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au](mailto:externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au). Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

## Late Assessment Penalties

An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).

The late penalty is the loss of 5% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late. Lateness will include weekends and public holidays. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted fourteen (14) days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted twenty-one (21) days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

## Special Consideration Applications

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance.

Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

- \* Prevent you from completing a course requirement,
- \* Keep you from attending an assessable activity,
- \* Stop you submitting assessable work for a course,

\* Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment.

For further details in relation to Special Consideration including "When to Apply", "How to Apply" and "Supporting Documentation" please refer to the Special Consideration website:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

**Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

**Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

**Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

**Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

**Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose



- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

(<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>)

## Weekly topics

### PART 1: Listening as Composition

1. Ecological Listening and Soundscape Composition
2. Bounded Listening and Archeoacoustics
3. Mediated Listening and Recording Technology

### PART 2: Audio Cultures

4. Cultures of Noise: Power and Surveillance
5. Cultures of Electromagnetism: Identity and Experimentation
6. Cultures of Repetition: Rituals and Economics

### PART 3: Technologies and Techniques

7. Technologies of the Archive: Mixing and Sampling
8. Technologies of the Model: Traditions of Synthesis
9. Technologies of Relation: Algorithms and Generative Music

Reading week: week 10

*See Moodle for weekly readings. Lectures for this subject are all online and both readings and lectures should be completed prior to the tutorial.*

## **Resources**

### **Prescribed Resources**

Just open minds and ears.

### **Recommended Resources**

Research and listening resources can be accessed via Moodle.

### **Course Evaluation and Development**

This course and the Sonic Arts stream have continued to grow based on both formal and informal feedback from students and staff. I do hope that all students will take part in the survey at the end of semester, so that everyone has a say in the course.

Any feedback is welcome outside this also, and can be passed on in tutorials or emailed to [a.hulbert@unsw.edu.au](mailto:a.hulbert@unsw.edu.au).

### **Image Credit**

Audio explorer Delia Derbyshire, lovingly rendered in cardboard. Photo by Adam Hulbert.

### **CRICOS**

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G