

AUDIO RECORDING BASICS

Professor: Tom Morris

Welcome to Audio Recording Basics. I'm Tom Morris. And I'll be your instructor in this course.

I've been an audio recording engineer and producer since 1981. In that time I've had the privilege of working with a number of very talented artists. I've produced and engineered several gold and platinum selling albums and worked on several Grammy nominated projects.

When I started my career, it was only possible to do serious recording in big, expensive recording studios. In the last 20 years, technology has evolved that now allows anybody with a computer and a little bit of hardware and software to do serious recording almost anywhere. All that you lack is the knowledge of how to use the equipment.

When you finish this course, you'll have a basic understanding of some of the principles of sound recording. These principles apply no matter what style of music you want to record-- from opera to hip hop to country to jazz to death metal to classical or anything in between. With the foundation you'll have from this class, you'll be able to make quality recordings and avoid most of the most common mistakes.

In the first half of the course, you'll be guided through the principles you need to understand in order to get the most out of your recording sessions. You'll also be required to use some fundamental physics and math skills. The payoff will be in the second half of the course, when you begin doing your own recordings.

We will be having discussion group assignments from time to time. The primary purpose of the discussion board is to allow students to interact with each other and the instructor. This will be especially important when it comes to our recording assignments.

In the recording assignments, you'll be expected to record live musical performances. It will be up to you to recruit the musician or group of musicians that will be providing those live music elements for your projects. Please make sure you make these arrangements well in advance.

Along the way I hope you discover the same joy that I get out of participating in the creative recording process. I tell most of the artists that I work with that if you're recording and you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong. So be creative, feel free to experiment, and have fun.