# Program Assessment Plan

## American University

### Academic Program: CAS: Audio Technology - BS

<table>
<thead>
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**Contact Person for Assessment:** Brent William  
**Unit's Primary Department:** Performing Arts  
**COLA Reader -1:** Joe Graf  
**COLA Reader -2:** Jeffrey Middents

### Learning Outcome: Recording

Every student will demonstrate the facility to create professional quality audio recordings.

**Outcome Year:**  
- 2008-2009  
- 2009-2010  
- 2010-2011  
- 2011-2012

**Start Date:** 05/11/2009  
**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

## Assessment Plan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Measure</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Schedule/Cycle</th>
<th>Active</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critique of portfolio level recording projects. Examines the use of correct microphone placement on instruments, the use of prescribed mixing and mastering techniques, and the demonstration of proper techniques to eliminate broad band noise reduction and unwanted acoustic reflections in ATEC-450 Audio Technology Capstone. This information is used to introduce new courses into the curriculum and make requests for improved facilities.</td>
<td>100% of students will demonstrate the facility to create professional-quality recordings.</td>
<td>Information collected annually.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measure Type:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Final Paper/ Final Project</strong></td>
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<td>Alumni questionnaire. Data collected via email and phone from an annual survey of every alumni to graduate from the program. This is accompanied by an update on the equipment, facilities, and changes to the curriculum.</td>
<td>75% of alumni will be satisfied with the quality of instruction, including the equipment and facilities now available for recording at American University. 80% or greater will indicate that the material covered in their audio technology courses provided a satisfactory preparation for employment in the field of audio technology. 75% will agree that the BA program has adequately prepared them for entry-level positions in related fields. 75% will agree that the BS program has adequately prepared them for entry-level positions in technical-related fields.</td>
<td>Information collected annually.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measure Type:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Alumni Feedback</strong></td>
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**Assessment of measures and tools used at other university-level recording programs. Information is used to make comparisons in regards to the quality of facilities and equipment in relation to programs of similar size and scope at other institutions.**  
**Measure Type:** Survey

The facilities and equipment used will be comparable to the median school that offers a program in audio technology.  
**Measure Type:** Survey

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Related Courses

- ATEC-401 - Digital Audio Workstations II
  Related Documents:
  Syllabus

- ATEC-421 - Sound Synthesis II
  Related Documents:
  Syllabus

- ATEC-450 - Audio Technology Capstone
  Related Documents:
  Grading rubric
  Syllabus
  Grading rubric

Related Action Steps

* Supporting Assessment: Audio recording performance examination
  Description: Students complete a checklist of 50 different skills required of professional audio engineers. This checklist describes the major learning outcomes and objectives of the ATEC-311 and 411 one year sequence.

* Supporting Assessment: Critique of student level capstone projects
  Description: Students demonstrated proficiency in the creation of recording professional quality recordings and audio projects. As many students requested to work on capstone projects that are not audio recordings, the use of this tool solely as a means of evaluation was reexamined to also include an assessment for ATEC-411.

Learning Outcome: Audio Technology

Each student will demonstrate a basic professional level of accomplishment in the core areas of audio technology including: non-linear digital audio recording and editing, analog recording, sound design for music and film/video, and the mixing and mastering of audio projects.

Outcome Year:
- 2008-2009
- 2009-2010
- 2010-2011
- 2011-2012

Start Date: 05/11/2009
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<td>Evaluation of student projects and examinations in ATEC-220 and ATEC-508. This information is used to identify possible difficulties in instruction, effectiveness of teaching methods, software utilized, and teacher expectations for students.</td>
<td>90% of students will complete projects that are comparable to those in a professional portfolio.</td>
<td>Information collected annually.</td>
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<td>Digidesign Pro Tools User Certification Examination. Test results are used to improve class instruction. Updates in instructional materials provided by Digidesign ensure that students will have a firm understanding of the latest concepts in</td>
<td>80% of students will complete 210M certification.</td>
<td>Test results collected every semester.</td>
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| Critique of portfolio level recording projects.  
Examines the use of correct microphone placement on instruments, the use of prescribed mixing and mastering techniques, and the demonstration of proper techniques to eliminate broad band noise reduction and unwanted acoustic reflections in ATEC-450 Audio Technology Capstone.  
This information is used to introduce new courses into the curriculum and make requests for improved facilities. | 100% of students will demonstrate the facility to create professional-quality recordings. | Information collected annually. | Yes |
| Final projects in PHYS-323 Electronics Laboratory 2, ATEC-431 Studio Management, and PHYS-305 Acoustics.  
Information is used to direct projects in Studio Management and work in conjunction with the Physics department to develop course materials that are beneficial to the program. | 75% of students will be able to assemble a semi-professional electronic audio device, design and install a basic audiovisual system for a professional application, and assess the acoustic properties of a space based upon an impulse response test. | Information collected every two years. | Yes |

### Learning Outcome: Repair and Installation

Students will demonstrate professional facility comparable to entry-level professionals in the fields of acoustics, audiovisual electronic repair and installation, and electronic circuit design and repair.

**Outcome Year:** 2008-2009  
2009-2010  
2010-2011

**Start Date:** 05/11/2009  
**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

### Related Courses

- ATEC-401 - Digital Audio Workstations II  
  **Related Documents:**  
  Syllabus

- ATEC-421 - Sound Synthesis II  
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- ATEC-450 - Audio Technology Capstone  
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  Grading rubric  
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