

MUS 517, Introduction to Computer Music

Instructor: Margaret Schedel | Wednesday, 6:30pm – 9:20pm

MUS 517 is a hands-on introduction to the use of computers in the creation and performance of music. Topics include hard-disk recording and mixing, computer manipulation of natural sound, a bit of MIDI, software synthesis, and computer-interactive music. In addition, there will be a "literature" component to the course — we will listen to important works of computer music, and discuss aesthetic issues and production techniques.

This is a graduate-level course. There are lab assignments each week, as well as reading and listening assignments, usually with a short précis or chart in response. There is also a final project, which may be a short piece, a program or a paper (or anything else that you and I think is interesting). Weekly, you should expect to spend 3-9 hours on projects (some work may only be possible in the Studio), and 1-3 hours listening/reading in the library.

This course is primarily intended for MA and PhD students in Composition, but is open to and appropriate for all Music Department Graduate students (others with prior permission). Extensive computer knowledge is not assumed; however, basic computer literacy is assumed, as well as musical training and background. DMA students interested in taking it as their free elective should contact the instructor and their advisor before enrolling.

3 credits