



**COURSE OUTLINE : MUSIC 187**  
**D Credit – Degree Applicable**  
**COURSE ID 010445**  
**Cyclical Revision: APRIL 2021**

**COURSE DISCIPLINE :** MUSIC  
**COURSE NUMBER :** 187  
**COURSE TITLE (FULL) :** Pro Tools I  
**COURSE TITLE (SHORT) :** Pro Tools I  
**ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE:** Music

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

MUSIC 187 is an introductory course in the principles and operation of Pro Tools software. Fundamental software configuration, operation, and features are covered from project creation to session completion. Students build skills through hands on Pro Tools projects that include audio and MIDI recording, mixing, editing, effects processing, external controllers and the use of virtual instruments. Students use Pro Tools in a variety of contexts including music and post, multitrack mixing, music production and creation. This course also prepares students for the optional Pro Tools User certification exam in Pro Tools 101 and 110. The certification exam may be taken at the conclusion of the course.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

**Total Course Units: 3.00**

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

**Total Contact Hours: 54.00**

**Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00**

Recommended Preparation: MUSIC 178.



**ENTRY STANDARDS**

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Include</b>
1	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	Explain sound, hearing, and acoustics concepts;	Yes
2	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	describe the principles of signal processing;	Yes
3	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	discuss the differences in studio types and designs;	Yes
4	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	explain microphone designs, characteristics, and applications;	Yes
5	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	discuss speakers and monitoring concepts;	Yes
6	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	explain proper signal flow in a recording system;	Yes
7	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	describe current audio recording procedures;	Yes
8	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	explain the processes and equipment involved in analog recording;	Yes
9	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	explain the processes, hardware, and software used in digital recording;	Yes
10	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	describe common editing procedures and possibilities for recorded audio;	Yes
11	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	describe audio console operation and basic mixing concepts;	Yes
12	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	explain current audio formats;	Yes
13	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	summarize the mastering process and mastering techniques;	Yes
14	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	summarize the different roles and processes involved in recording;	Yes
15	MUSIC	178	Introduction To Recording	recognize current methods of audio product manufacturing.	Yes

**EXIT STANDARDS**

- 1 Describe what Pro Tools software is;
- 2 configure a Pro Tools hardware and software system;
- 3 demonstrate proper file and session management;
- 4 operate and configure Pro Tools sessions;
- 5 demonstrate audio and Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) recording techniques;
- 6 demonstrate audio, Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), and video import;
- 7 operate virtual instruments and real-time plugins;
- 8 demonstrate basic mixing, signal routing, and automation techniques;
- 9 manipulate clips, markers, fades, notes, tempo, timing and pitch;



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- 10 demonstrate editing techniques for audio, Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), and video;
- 11 produce session bounces, backups, and mix downs;
- 12 complete hands-on Pro Tools projects.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- 1 identify the fundamental elements, features, and capabilities of Pro Tools software set and its various related hardware systems
- 2 operate the basic set-up, editing, and file management features of Pro Tools software
- 3 demonstrate basic audio and Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) recording and editing techniques in Pro Tools
- 4 complete Pro Tools projects that utilize editing, signal processing, automation, and mixing techniques

**COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS**

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	Pro Tools Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro Tools systems, configurations and options</li> <li>• Digital audio basics</li> <li>• File structure and formats</li> </ul>	4	0	4
2	Pro Tools Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navigation</li> <li>• Playback</li> <li>• Creating a session</li> </ul>	6	0	6
3	Basic Recording <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track types</li> <li>• Audio recording and setup</li> <li>• MIDI recording setup and virtual instruments</li> </ul>	11	0	11
4	Importing Media	1	0	1



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5	Basic Editing Techniques in Pro Tools	7	0	7
6	Basic Pro Tools Mixing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topology</li> <li>• Signal flow</li> <li>• Inserts and sends</li> <li>• Real time plugins</li> </ul>	11	0	11
7	Customizing Pro Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimizing performance</li> <li>• I/O setup</li> <li>• Control surfaces</li> </ul>	1	0	1
8	Further Recording <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loop recording</li> <li>• Punch in recording</li> <li>• Overdubbing</li> </ul>	4	0	4
9	Track Timbases, Elastic Audio, and Virtual Instruments	4	0	4
10	Further Mixing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with submasters</li> <li>• Track grouping</li> <li>• Automation</li> </ul>	4	0	4
11	Finishing a Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a backup</li> <li>• Bouncing</li> </ul>	1	0	1
				<b>54</b>

**OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS**

- 1 reading
- 2 listening and analysis (e.g. listening to Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band and providing a description of recording techniques that are heard)
- 3 exercises (e.g. edit and rearrange the words of recorded dialogue in a DAW)
- 4 projects (e.g. mix and bounce a multi-track session including the application of appropriate signal processing)



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**METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- 1 class discussions;
- 2 quizzes;
- 3 project evaluations;
- 4 midterm examinations;
- 5 final examinations.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

- Lecture
- Laboratory
- Studio
- Discussion
- Multimedia
- Tutorial
- Independent Study
- Collaboratory Learning
- Demonstration
- Field Activities (Trips)
- Guest Speakers
- Presentations

**TEXTBOOKS**

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	ISBN	Date
Pro Tools 101 Pro Tools Fundamentals I	Required	NextPoint Training, Inc.		print	Cook, Frank	9781943446476	2017
Pro Tools Fundamentals II	Required	Avid Technology		print	Cook, Frank	9781943446490	2017