

MAS 432: Audio Production

Midterm Exam Review

If you think this looks like a lot, rest assured it's really not. It just requires a good read-through. The exam will primarily focus on terminology and definitions. Remember that I will not make this exam too hard on you – you should be able to knock it out in 30 or 40 minutes. All references to the 9th edition are in parentheses.

Essential Terms and Concepts

You should have an explanation of the following derived from your book or from my lecture.

Sampling rate	Sampling resolution
Compression ratio	Aliasing
Nyquist Theorem	Relationship between sampling rate and frequency
Quantizing	Clipping
Normalizing	Noise gates and limiters
Digital Effects	

Digital Recording (Recording)

Read portions of Chapter Six from your textbook. Start at “Digital Audio” on the bottom of page 120 (131) and continue up to “Digital Audiotape Recorders” (Technologies and Formats) on page 124 (135). Most of this I covered in the lecture above, so it is only review.

Music Production (Music Recording)

Read Chapter Fifteen (Chapter Nineteen) from your textbook. I don't think any of you will be recording strings (I may be wrong) so I won't have anything from that section on the exam. However, you can read it if you want to – you may have plans to mike strings. Also, we won't be doing anything with off-miking, recording in Surround-Sound, or television studio recording, so none of that material will be on the test. If you're interested, however, Digital Performer will mix 5.1 Surround-Sound.

Consoles and Control Surfaces

Read Chapter Five from your textbook. This is a really short chapter, so I don't feel too bad about asking you to be familiar with most of it, especially since much of it is just a list of mixer and console functions and it has a lot of pictures. However, you don't have to read the whole thing to get the pertinent facts. The most important parts are the beginning up to Patching. Also, you don't have to pay any attention to the section on broadcast consoles.

Signal Processors

Read Chapter Eight from your textbook. I'm not interested in the section on noise processors, since we probably won't be using them much or at all, since you won't be making noisy recordings. So, you read pp. 150-166 (160-176) and ignore the rest of the chapter.