

# ENGL 475- Writing with Sound – Schedule

## Week One: Intro to Sound Studies

### T 2/7 – Introductions and Expectations

- Syllabus Overview
- List of places to check out Podcasts
- 99% Invisible “[Episode 1: Noise](#)”

### For Thursday

- Sterne, “Sonic Imaginations” [SSR]
- Sterne et al, “[The Politics of Podcasting](#)”
- You Asked: [What are Podcasts?](#)
- Install Audacity

### Th 2/9 - Intro to Sound Studies & Audacity

*To be completed on your own in lieu of class meeting (response should be posted by 2:30 pm):*

- This American Life, “[Mapping](#)”
- Audacity Hack: Respond verbally to 99% Invisible Episode 1 or the This American Life “Mapping” segment in under 30 seconds via Audacity—record, export, edit, save.

### For Tuesday

- Barthes, “Listening” [PDF]
- Steve Goodman, “The Ontology of Vibrational Force” [SSR]
- Chion, “The Three Listening Modes” [SSR]

## Week Two: Listening and/or Hearing

### T 2/14 – Listening I

- RE : SOUND “[The Hearing Show](#)”
- “[MIT Researchers Can Listen via Video](#)”

### For Thursday

- Kitchen Sisters – [The Rise and Fall ... of Thomas Alva Edison](#)

### Th 2/16 – Listening II

- ASSIGN: Sonic Postcard & Field Recording
- “[How to Map a City: Part 1](#)” (We’ll come back to these two entries)
- “[How to Map a City: Part 2](#)”
- 99% Invisible – [Reality \(1% Augmented\)](#)

### For Tuesday

- Schaffer, “The Soundscape” [SSR]
- Leppert “Reading the Sonoric Landscape” [SSR]
- Attali, “Noise” [SSR]

## Week Three – Soundscapes

### T 2/21 - Soundscapes

- [Instagr/am/bient: 25 Sonic Postcards](#)
- [Sonic Postcards](#)
- ASSIGN: Podcast Proposal Assignment

### For Thursday

- LaBelle, “Auditory Relations” [SSR]
- Eshun, “Operating System for the Redesign of Sonic Reality” [SSR]
- Kestercher, “Unreality Radio” [RR]
- [How to reimagine Sound in Ten Easy Steps](#)

### Th 2/23 - Shaping Sound

**DUE:** Sonic Postcards

- Soundscape re/design

### For Tuesday

- Devitt, Reiff, and Bawarshi, “[Using Genres to Read Scenes of Writing.](#)” *Scenes of Writing*
- Devitt and Bawarshi, “[Rhetorical Genre Studies Approaches to Teaching Writing](#)”

## Week Four – Podcasting Ethics

### T 2/28 Genre Analysis

- Walk Through Genre Analysis
- Discuss [Remediation](#)
- ASSIGN: Sonic Remediation Project

### For Thursday

- Glass, “Harnessing Luck As Industrial Product” [RR]
- Radiolab – [Making the Hippo Dance](#) (30 mins)
- “[Tinkering with Sound Design](#)” (21 mins)

### Th 3/2 Ethics of Amplification

**DUE:** Reading Response #3

- “[Pulling Back the Curtain](#)”
- Discussion on “Ethics of Amplification”
- “[DIY \\$23.00 Mini Sound Booth built in under an hour.](#)”
- ASSIGN: Podcast Analysis

### For Tuesday

- [How Podcasts Get \(And Keep\) Your Attention](#)
- Smith, “Living History” [RR]
- Tolan, “Voice and the Place” [RR]
- Davis, “Covering Home” [RR]

## Week Five – Writing Sound Stories

*Dr. Blouke is out of town this week – so Tuesday's work will be completed on your own/online, and for Thursday, I'm going to trust you to support each other without a ~~babysitter~~ substitute teacher*

### T 3/7 – Writing Sound Stories

**DUE:** Reading Response #3

- Online discussion of readings – forum in Moodle: post your reading responses both to assignment and as a forum post, read and respond to three of your classmates' posts

### For Thursday

- Work on sonic remediation

### Th 3/9 – Editing/Peer review

**DUE:** upload to Moodle an outline/storyboard/draft of plan(s) for sonic remediation

- *You'll meet as a class at 1:00 and send a picture via GroupMe of everybody who is present (this will be the attendance record for the day). Ideally, I'd like for you to share your draft/talk through ideas with your classmates and use the class time to work on your project/help each other with Audacity.*

### For Tuesday

- Hilmes, "Radio and the Imagined Community" [SSR]

## Week Six – Writing Sound Stories (Cont.)

### T 3/14 – Radio and Community

**DUE:** Sonic Remediation

- catch up on all the things
- Listen: 99% Invisible, "[The Sound of Sports](#)"

### For Thursday

- work on podcast analysis, bring to class for editing workshop
- *Bound by Law?* [pdf]

### Th 3/16 – Editing Workshop

**DUE:** Podcast Proposal

- Discussion of copyright and fair use
- Editing podcast analysis

### For Tuesday

- Roberts, "Finding the Poetry" [RR]
- The Kitchen Sisters, "Talking to Strangers" [RR]
- Carrier, "That Jackie Kennedy Moment" [RR]
- HowSound, "[Interviewing with Your Skeptical Brain](#)" (17 mins)

## Week Eight – Stories and Sound

### T 3/21 – Interviewing

**DUE:** Podcast Analysis

- Interviewing exercise

### For Thursday

- Peters, "The Telephonic Uncanny and the Problem of Communication" [SSR]
- Smith, "Laughing Machines" [SSR]

### Th 3/23 - The Uncanny

- Discussion of uncanny and audio
- HowSound, "[Sound as the Protagonist](#)"

### For Tuesday

- Mowitt, "The Sound of Music in the Era of Its Electronic Reproducibility" [SSR]
- Lastra, "Fidelity v. Intelligibility" [SSR]

## Week Seven – Editing Workshop

### T 3/28 – Editing workshop

- Editing podcast #1 – Interview

### T 3/30 – Editing workshop

- Editing podcast #1 – Interview

**FRIDAY 3/31, 5:00 pm – DUE: Podcast Episode #1**

## Week Eight – Spring Break

## Week Nine – Ambient Sounds and Structure

### T 4/11 – Ambient Sounds and Silence

- "[The do's and don'ts of gathering ambient background, or harvesting 'wild sound'](#)"
- "[Crowdsourcing the Quiet](#)" video

### For Thursday

- Listen: How Sound "[My Kingdom for Some Structure](#)" episode (14 mins)
- "[My Kingdom for Some Structure](#)" post

### T 4/13 – Story Structure

- mapping story structure exercise

### For Tuesday

- Listen: How Sound "[How Not to Write for Radio](#)" (21 mins)
- "[Signal to Noise](#)"
- "[Writing for Radio: Ten Yellow Flags](#)"

## Week Ten – Writing and Editing

### T 4/18 – Writing for Radio

- discussion of reading/listening
- editing workshop

#### For Thursday

- [“Cultivating the Editor in Your Brain”](#)

### T 4/20 – Editing Yourself

- discussion of reading
- editing workshop

#### For Tuesday

- Listen: Sound Matters [“Zombie Movie Piano Music”](#) (22 mins)
- Listen: 99% Invisible, [“The Sizzle”](#)

## Week Eleven – The Consequences of Sound

### T 4/25 – Sound Design

**DUE:** Podcast #2

- \*\*Work from home

#### For Thursday

- Listen: How Sound [“Short is Beautiful”](#) (15 mins)
- Pick 3 episodes of [The World According to Sound](#) (90 seconds each)

### T 4/27 – Sound and Style

- World according to sound exercise

#### For Tuesday

- Draft of episode #2

## Week Twelve – Editing and Sound Design

### T 5/2 – Workshop

- Share drafts of episode outlines
- Editing

#### For Thursday

- Listen: *Sound Matters* [“The Good, the Bad, and the Smelly”](#) (19 mins)
- Listen: [The Memory Palace](#) (listen to two episodes)

### T 5/4 – Concision and Storytelling

- Discuss Memory Palace

#### For Tuesday

- [The Whiteness of ‘Public Radio Voice’](#)
- [“How Code Switching Explains the World”](#)
- [“Breaking Out the Broken English”](#)

## Week Thirteen – Voice and Stereotype

### T 5/9 – Accents

- This American Life: [“Drawl”](#)
- Discuss accents
- Final Reflection Instructions

#### For Thursday

- Finish podcast

### T 5/11 – Showcase

**DUE:** Podcast #3

- In class – listen to each other’s work

## Final Reflection: DUE 5/15 by 5:00 pm

T – Gender and Sound

Listen: Freakonomics [“What are Gender Barriers Made Of?”](#) (36 mins)

Memory Palace: [“Roots and Branches and Wind-Borne Seeds”](#)