

**Columbia College Chicago
600 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605**

**J Term 2009
Radio Department**

**41-1142J-01 Music Licensing 1 Credit Hour
January 6-20, 2009 Tuesday - Thursday 6:30PM-9:20PM
33 East Congress Parkway – Room 705**

**Last Day to Add Classes or Change Sections: January 5, 2009
Last Day to Drop Classes: January 6, 2009, until 11:59 pm CST
The Last Day to Withdraw: Wednesday, January 7, 2009**

Course Description

The course provides an overview of music licensing from both a legal and practical perspective. Music licensing is a broad, complex area with lots of legal pitfalls. Students will learn the process of “clearing” a song for use in radio and television advertisements, film and video projects, podcasting, internet streaming, and music recording sessions. They will explore the differences between and various uses of mechanical, synchronization, and master use licenses. Since music licenses are essentially copyright licenses, those portions of copyright law that apply to music properties will be reviewed, as well as the business contexts in which they are relevant.

Pre-requisite

None

Instructor: Donald R. Simon, Esq.
Office: Entertainment Law Chicago, P.C.
P.O. Box 408474
Chicago, IL 60640
Office Hours: By Appointment
Telephone: 773.882.4912 (office)
Email: *dsimon@entertainmentlawchicago.com*
Web: *www.entertainmentlawchicago.com/music.htm*

Radio Department Office
33 East Congress Parkway, Ste. 700
Chicago, IL 60605
Office 312-369-8160 Fax 312-369-8007

Course Fees: \$25.00

Required Text

None. Handouts will be provided.

Supplies/Materials

None

Suggested Reading

- 1) A. Kohn, *Kohn On Music Licensing* (3rd Edition, 2002).
- 2) D. Passman, *All You Need To Know About the Music Business* (6th Edition, 2006).
- 3) S. Gordon, *The Future of the Music Business* (2005).
- 4) E. Beall, *Making Music Make Money* (2003).

Learning and Performance Outcomes

Students will:

1. Students will become familiar with music licensing terminology
2. Students will identify the legal rights from which the terms and all music licenses originate.

Course Policies:

Grading

20% Class Participation

20% Pop Quizzes

60% Final Exam

Grading Scale

A= 100% - 90% B= 89% - 80%

C= 79% - 70% D= 69% - 60%

F= 59% -

Attendance/Commitment Policy

We are committed as a group to exploring this topic. When you do not attend a class it is a lack of commitment to the material and to your classmates. Failure to attend a class session will result in a reduced grade. In the event that you must miss a class, call or email the lecturer and contact a classmate for notes. If you miss more than one (1) class, you will receive a failing grade for the class.

Incomplete Grade Policy

An Incomplete Grade (I) can only be issued for an undergraduate student who has met the following criteria: The student has successfully completed all course requirements to date but is faced with unexpected circumstances during the final weeks of the semester resulting in the inability to complete course requirements by the end of the semester. The student must have, in the instructor's estimation, the ability to complete missed course requirements outside of class and by the end of the eighth week of the following semester. The instructor must agree to evaluate the student's work and replace the incomplete grade before the end of the following semester. An agreement specifying work to be completed and a due date must be signed by both instructor and student and approved by the Department Chair.

Statement on Academic Integrity

Per Columbia College Chicago policy as stated in the 2008-2009 college catalog on page 334, the College prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" is understood as the appropriation and representation of another's work as one's own, whether such appropriation includes all or part of the other's work or whether it comprises all or what is represented as one's own work (plagiarism). Appropriate citation avoids this form of dishonesty. In addition "academic dishonesty" includes cheating in any form, the falsification of academic documents, or the falsification of works or references for use in class or other academic circumstances. When such dishonesty is discovered, the consequences to the student can be severe. For clarification of the consequences, see the course catalog.

Students with Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities are requested to present their Columbia accommodation letters to their instructor at the beginning of the semester so that accommodations can be arranged in a timely manner by the College, the department or the faculty member, as appropriate. Students with disabilities who do not have accommodation letters should visit the office of Services for Students with Disabilities in room 520 of the Congress building (312.369.8134/V or 312.360.0767/TTY). It is incumbent upon the student to know their responsibilities in this regard.

Exams and Pop-Quizzes

Exams will include definitions, short answers, multiple choice, and true and false questions. The final will be in class, but open-book; pop-quizzes, however, will be closed-book.

NO EATING, DRINKING (OTHER THAN WATER) OR SMOKING WILL BE ALLOWED DURING CLASS SESSIONS. ALSO NO CELL PHONES OR TEXT MESSAGING IN CLASS UNLESS IT IS AN EMERGENCY.

Reading Assignments and Discussion Topics

- Session 1 - January 6th**
Introduction to the course. Course syllabus. Overview of the music industry.
Music industry jargon. Copyright Law 101.
Handout: Copyright Law 101
- Session 2 - January 8th**
Copyright Law 101 (con't). Music copyright issues. How music copyrights work.
Contracts 101. Basic considerations in music licensing. Introduction to music licensing agreements. Pop quiz?
Handout: Contracts 101
- Session 3 - January 13th**
The process for “clearing” a song. Performing rights societies—ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC. Harry Fox Agency. Mechanical licenses. Synchronization licenses. Master use licenses. Compulsory licensing. “Sampling.”
Handout: Form licenses.
- Session 4 - January 15th**
Digital public performance and new media licensing. Licensing for podcasting, Internet streaming and the like. SoundExchange.
Handout: Sample web license agreements.
- Session 5 - January 20th**
Review for final. In-class final exam.
Handout: Final exam.

Disclaimer/ The Fine Print:

Please note that the syllabus is subject to change depending upon the needs/demands of the course and its students. You will be notified of all changes.