

NABA

NUOVA ACCADEMIA
DI BELLE ARTI

SUMMMER COURSES

A.Y. 2025-26
SYLLABUS

Sound design

1st session: June 30th – July 10th 2026

www.naba.it



Sound design

School: Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti Milano (NABA)

Address: Via Darwin 20, 20143 Milan, Italy

Phone: + 39.02.973.192 *E-mail:* summer@naba.it

Course Structure: 45 hours – 9 lesson days

ECTS: 3 ECTS credits*

Introductory level

*ECTS credits only awarded to university students or participants who are completing or have completed a university or academic study path

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The training offered by the Sound Design course combines critical-cultural knowledge, creative research and technical and technological practice and the analysis and design of sound in different production areas: from electronic music production to sound design for film, television and radio. Students will be introduced and will face the sound design process, in order to acquire and practice all the knowledge necessary for the production of their project.

The final projects will be broadcasted on PRE-DELAY /// WEB RADIO. www.pre-delay.com

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the sound dimension in all its practical features and to apply the theoretical and technical knowledge acquired in the different operational contexts of sound design.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The course is addressed to students who have no a background in sound design but have a strong interest in this design domain.

OUTPUT

As a result of this course students will be able to:

- outline a research and analysis for the development of a sound concept;
- develop a sound design project;

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Sound design

- understand the sound design methodology;
- use properly sound design tools.

Students will acquire an overall understanding of sound design through Learning by Doing techniques. The final project will consist of sound track.

LIST OF MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Laptop (preferably Mac).
- Digital Audio Recorder (a smartphone is enough).
- Headphones.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is required for successful completion of the course. Attendance will be taken every class period. On the last day of classes, instructors will issue a Certificate of successful attendance only to all students who completed at least 80% of the course.

COURSE POLICY

The Faculty of NABA takes Academic integrity seriously. Instances of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism won't be tolerated. Mobile phones will be kept switched off all the time during class. Use of laptop during classes for personal purposes is forbidden.

TEACHING METHODS

Learning by doing: a mix of theoretical lessons, field trips and practical workshops.

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Grading

Total number of ECTS assigned for the successful completion of the course: 3 ECTS

GRADING SYSTEM

GRADING WEIGHTS	GRADING SCALE				
1. Attendance 30%	Excellent = 90-100				
2. Participation and creative process 40%	Good = 80-89				
3. Final work / final presentation 30%	Average = 70-79				
TOTAL 100%	Below Average = 60-69				
	Poor = 59 or below				
	EXCELLENT 90 -100%	GOOD 80 – 89%	AVERAGE 70 – 79%	BELOW AVERAGE 60 – 69%	POOR BELOW 60%
Attendance (30%)	On time, perfect attendance	Seldom late: attended between 95% and 90 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 90 % and 85 % of the course	Occasionally late: attended between 85% and 80% of the course	Frequently late, attended less than 80% of the course: FAILED
Participation and Creative Process (40 %)	Demonstrates strong understanding of the topic & thorough, creative research	Shows good grasp of the topic & good research	Exhibits average comprehension of the topic & average research	Shows some awareness of the topic & below average awareness of research	Has shallow insight into the topic & poor grasp of research
Original Project (Final work/ Final presentation) (30%)	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits exceptional analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits below average analysis of concepts & production of original proposal	Exhibits poor analysis of concepts & production of original proposal

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Sound design

1st week

COURSE SCHEDULE*

DAY		LESSON-SUBJECT
Day 1 - Tuesday	NABA Staff	<p>Welcome and Registration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sound Theory (Acoustics and Psychoacoustics).• Elements of Music Theory.• Acousmatic Music. <p>SOUND SPACE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Localized Space.• Spectral Space.• Morphological Space.• Sound Space Management.• Organization of Sounds.• Sound Design Workshop 1st TO DO – Analysis.
Day 2 - Wednesday		<p>MIDI Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logic Pro Overview• Logic I: Arrangement and MIDI• Logic II: Editor and MIDI• Mixer / Analog and Digital Audio• Sound Samplers• Logic III: Sampling – EXS24• Sound Design Workshop 2nd TO DO – Explore

*The Academy reserves the right to:

- amend or cancel courses, change course location or substitute course leaders, professors, guests, visits location;
- make any changes that in our absolute discretion we consider necessary or appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to any other circumstances that are beyond our control.

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Sound design

1st week

COURSE SCHEDULE*

DAY

Day 3 - Thursday

LESSON-SUBJECT

- Microphones.
- Audio Recording Techniques.
- Recording.
- Logic IV: Audio / Editing.
- Signal Processors (effects, dynamics processors, equalizers, and filters).
- Logic V: Plugins / Automation.
- Contextualization and Decontextualization of Natural and Artificial Sounds.
- Sound Transformations.
- Elements of Narration.
- Sound Gesture.
- Compositional Forms and Strategies.
- Use of Loop Technique / Collage of Sound Events.
- Sound Design Workshop | 3rd TO DO – Compose.

Day 4 - Friday

- Sound Synthesis.
- Logic VI: Virtual Synths.
- Arrangement.
- Sound Design Workshop | 4th TO DO – Produce.

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Sound design

2st week

COURSE SCHEDULE*

DAY	LESSON-SUBJECT
Day 5 - Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>*Field Trip.</i>• Sound Design workshop.
Day 6 - Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture on Sound Design.• Sound Design workshop.
Day 7 - Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sound Design workshop.
Day 8 - Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparing the final project.
Day 9 - Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sound Design workshop.• Preparing the final project.• Final Presentation.

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