

# Berrien Springs Partnership Lab Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

**LABS (CLASSES) ARE PROVIDED AS AN EDUCATIONAL SOURCE FOR PBL (PROJECT BASED LEARNING)**

**COMMUNITY CLASS TITLE:** ELECTRONIC MUSIC

**GRADE OR AGE LEVELS:** GRADES K-12

**FORMAT:** IN-PERSON

**DAY & TIME OF THE WEEK:** ARRANGED WITH INSTRUCTOR

**TOTAL REQUIRED HRS:** 16 **ADD'L POSSIBLE HRS (OPTIONAL TIME):**

**TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE:** 16

**LOCATION:** 9480 COLUMBIA RD, DOWAGIAC, MI 49047

**INSTRUCTOR:** JON WHIDDEN

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** **phone:** 269-782-8809 **email:** [jon@ruskets.com](mailto:jon@ruskets.com)

**website:** [www.youtube.com/@karoostudio](http://www.youtube.com/@karoostudio)

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED?** NO

**IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION:**

**INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS (may attach a separate page if necessary):**

BA Honours EthnoMusicology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, 2000

BS Art Education, Andrews University, 1998

**COURSE DESCRIPTION (OVERVIEW):**

During a series of 8 two-hour sessions, new students will be introduced to a variety of electronic instruments and technologies that have been steadily incorporated into a worldwide spectrum of musical genres including pop, hip-hop, rock, film music and even country, praise and classical during the last century.

Students will learn, through hands-on experience, the basics of synthesizers, drum machines, audio sampling, sequencing/automation and effects processing. A series of interesting, media-rich lectures and demonstrations, interspersed

throughout studio sessions, will help them to recognize and appreciate the contributions of electronic performers and technologies to the world of music, from the theremin to auto-tune.

Returning students, already familiar with the above, will have extra time for experimentation, exposure to new techniques and are encouraged to focus on developing their personal production style and/or stage presence.

Classes meet weekly at the instructor's home studio outside of Eau Claire. Class times will be arranged with the instructor following registration.

## **SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING LAB ACTIVITIES**

The first meeting will include a tour of the studio and demonstrations of the equipment to be used during the semester.

The 2nd week will include more in-depth instruction and practice using studio equipment.

The remaining 6 classes will be used to plan, rehearse and produce a series of recordings, with students taking turns as performers, engineers and producers.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:**

Students will learn to:

- Operate a mixing board
- Program a drum machine
- Play the Theremin
- Make a sample loop
- Create a synthesizer patch from scratch
- Record the sounds created in class
- Add effects, master and mixdown to a finished recording
- Recognize electronic instruments/elements in recorded music

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?**

- 1) Student agrees to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The link to this form is found on the web page for this class. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program discontinuation.

**Class-specific assessment:** Students will participate in class, working to produce a series of audio recordings.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.):**

Although not required, students will benefit from additional practice on their own outside of class using their own instruments or software apps like Mulab, GarageBand, FL Studio, etc.

### **CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.**

**Attendance:** Missed studio sessions can be made up by arrangement.

**Weather:** Contact the instructor if the roads are too dangerous.