Guidelines for *Sound analysis*
MUS4831 – 10 studiepoeng

General information
Information on course content, learning outcome, teaching and examination:
https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/hf/imv/MUS4831/index.html

Grading scale: A – F
https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/grading-system/index.html

Abstract
This is an advanced, but broadly-based course within the field of sound, sound perception and associated technology designed to enable students to carry out research projects within music analysis, music cognition, music technology, popular music research, music and media, and other fields where knowledge of sound, perception of sound, and available research tools are an essential premise.

Guidelines

This Sound Analysis course aims at providing students with background theory and set of tools to independently develop solutions to problems related to qualitative and quantitative analysis of sound.

For the term paper, the students have the freedom to decide on a problem and its solution by using sound analysis theory and tools learned through the semester. The students must then produce an essay with the following main sections:

Research question/problem: It is a requirement that the essay is not about a general topic but an attempt to answer a specific research question or problem. A good answer should begin with clearly formulating and delimiting the problem. An excellent answer would be concise and to the point.

Background: detailing the rationale for the chosen problem as well as a relevant literature review. A good answer will identify the research question in the existing literature and, accordingly, formulate a clear hypothesis. An excellent answer will be distinguished from a good answer based on the level of the reflection shown and the independent connections drawn between the existing literature.

Methods: describing the methods chosen to solve the problem. Students must clearly detail the rationale behind the chosen methods and the advantages and drawbacks of

each one. A good answer will be determined by the relevance of the methods for the chosen problem. An excellent answer will use the different methods in a complementary way.

Results/Analysis: describing the analysis and discussing findings. This section of the essay must include figures, structured presentation of quantitative data, and insightful interpretation of results. A good answer would analyze results based on theory and the existing literature. An excellent answer would formulate new research questions and hypotheses by integrating the findings in the current literature.

Bibliography: it is required that the literature discussed in the previous sections is included as a list of references at the end of the essay. Although there is no preferred citation style, the consistent use of a chosen style in this section will distinguish a good from an excellent answer. .

Essays must be approx. 15 pages each (consisting of approx. 2.300 characters, spaces not included), to be handed in by a specified date at the end of the semester. Title and topic are subject to the approval of the course leader.

Besides the independently evaluated sections above, the essays will also be evaluated as wholes in line with the topics covered during the semester and emphasis will be placed on independent thinking, methodology followed, and ability to select appropriate methods from the range of sound analysis tools presented in the course.