



PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS
SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2022 EXAM
EXAMINATION FOR BACHELORS OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION
JMS 301: AUDIO TECHNIQUES - FINAL PROJECT (40%)

GROUP PROJECT

EXAM DATE:

Your final project this semester is on the area of music recording, mixing and mastering. It accounts for 40% of your final grade. In the assigned groups of 3 or 4 plan the preproduction, production and postproduction aspects of music recording (planning, recording, mixing and mastering) for a single song/track. The song **MUST** have at least two musical instruments and at least 3 different vocals. The final work has to be presented as a Google Drive link of a zipped folder, containing the project file(s) and the final audio music file in mp3 format. The Google Drive link **MUST** be shared such that anyone with the link can view. A copy of the audio music file (mp3) has to be sent via email for previewing in class during SHOWTIME. The student is also supposed to rate the contributions of fellow group members out of a possible five marks.

Software:

- ✓ Audacity or Davinci Resolve's Fairlight Audio Editor

Condition: Work in groups of **three** to **four** as assigned. At the end, you will be required to rate and justify the contribution of each member of the team out of **5 points**.

Evaluation will be based on the following:

- i. The student has created and organized a session within the recording software (DAW) and the user interface is well organized and all tracks and recordings are well labeled. **(5 marks)**
- ii. Proper microphone recording techniques and recording levels without noise, pops, distortions etc. **(5 marks)**
- iii. Using Instruments: Creative use of at least 2 different instruments during the audio composition. **(5 marks)**
- iv. Demonstrates skills in utilization of sound effects (fx) during recording or postproduction. **(5 marks)**
- v. Tracks are well balanced to obtain a good overall level of mix. **(5 marks)**
- vi. Proper artist and producer details (ID3 information) embedded on the exported mp3 audio file. **(5 marks)**
- vii. An individual Evaluation Report with the following subsections;
 - a) A critique of the activities the student undertook and the equipment used in producing the song. The student describes the challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt during the exercise. **(5 marks)**
 - b) A critique of the specific roles played by each student in the group and rating of the contribution of each group member out of a possible 5 points. **(5 marks)**

Submission requirements:

1. Each student will be required to submit their own copy of the final project independently on the LMS in the respective assignment section.
2. You will be required to upload your files on Google Drive and copy this link on to the Individual Written brief presented as a Word Document.
3. Submit a MS Word document (Evaluation Report) that evaluates the whole process, and written according to the instructions in **part vii** above in the Evaluation criteria section.
4. Submit the DAW session of the project with well labeled tracks.
5. Submit an mp3 version of the rendered/exported session.
6. This is an exam and no late submissions will be accepted past the allocated exam time.