# CRAFTED
## PRODUCERS

Empowering Youth Through Music Production

Studio Masters Course Outline

# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters Program

Studio Masters is a mentorship program for middle and high school students who are curious about the industry. It consist of a 12 week vocational production course that gives them an awareness and advantage in tech and creative careers in music production. These courses are tailored to each individual student aligning with their level of knowledge and skill set.

Through out the duration of the class students get a hands on experience with technology, musical equipment, and computer software. We start with the fundamentals and advance in detail and creativity as the weeks progress. Students with little to no background in these subjects are mentored, taught and trained to become crafted producers, along with tools to become entrepreneurs in starting their own small business in production.

Each student will have an individual workstation consisting of a computer, software, headphones, microphones and other production gear and technology that will allow them to explore and learn the art of creating music. In addition to the workstation students will be lead by an instructor with an identical set up for group learning as well as individual mentors that will assist and coach them through the course.

The Studio Masters program offers more than just production training, we give students real world tools such as communication, creativity, critical thinking, mathematics, problem solving, and team work and collaboration.

This gives them a leading edge in school with STEM and in the future market place. This program is a fun and engaging class that gives students a one of a kind experience. Students have access to state of the art studios and equipment along with industry professionals that teach, guide, and mentor them in music production.

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# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters

**Course Title:** <span style="color:red">**Introduction to Audio Recording**</span>

**Course Description:**

*This course provides an in-depth exploration of audio recording, designed for beginners and intermediate learners alike. It combines theoretical knowledge with practical, hands-on experience to equip students with the skills needed to produce high-quality audio recordings. Throughout the course, students will learn about various recording equipment, techniques, and digital audio workstations (DAWs), as well as the intricacies of mixing and mastering.*

**Week 1: Introduction to Audio Recording**
- What is audio recording?
- Historical overview of audio recording technologies
- Different types of audio recording applications
- Introduction to audio equipment and signal flow

**Week 2: Understanding Sound**
- Basics of sound and audio waves
- Frequency, amplitude, and phase
- Human hearing and psychoacoustics
- Understanding audio perception and the Fletcher-Munson curve

**Week 3: Microphones**
- Types of microphones (dynamic, condenser, ribbon, etc.)
- Microphone polar patterns and their applications
- Factors affecting microphone choice and placement
- Techniques for miking different instruments and vocals

**Week 4: Acoustics and Room Treatment**
- Importance of acoustic treatment in recording environments
- Principles of sound reflection, absorption, and diffusion
- Identifying and addressing common acoustic problems
- DIY acoustic treatment solutions on a budget

**Week 5: Audio Interfaces and Recording Hardware**

- Overview of audio interfaces and their functions
- Connection types (USB, Thunderbolt, etc.)
- Analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog conversion
- Choosing the right recording hardware for your needs

**Week 6: Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)**

- Introduction to DAW software and their features
- Recording, editing, and arranging audio tracks
- MIDI and virtual instruments
- Basic audio editing techniques

**Week 7: Recording Techniques and Best Practices**

- Proper gain staging and setting levels
- Tips for achieving a clean signal and avoiding clipping
- Overdubbing and layering tracks
- Recording vocals and other challenging sources

**Week 8: Mixing and Signal Processing**

- Introduction to the mixing process
- Using EQ, compression, and reverb effectively
- Understanding audio effects and plugins
- Creating a balanced and cohesive mix

**Week 9: Audio Editing and Post-Production**

- Advanced audio editing techniques
- Noise reduction and audio restoration
- Time stretching and pitch correction
- Preparing audio for different media (CD, streaming, etc.)

**Week 10: Mastering**

- The purpose and goals of audio mastering
- Mastering tools and techniques
- Preparing the final mix for distribution
- The loudness war and dynamic range considerations

**Week 11: Troubleshooting and Problem-Solving**

- Identifying and fixing common recording issues
- Troubleshooting hardware and software problems
- Techniques for salvaging problematic recordings

**Week 12: Project Presentations and Final Assessment**

- Students present their final audio recording projects
- Instructor provides feedback and evaluations
- Final assessment to test students' knowledge and skills

*Throughout the course, hands-on practical exercises and recording sessions should complement the theory, allowing students to apply what they have learned. The curriculum can be adjusted based on the level of the students and the available resources. Additionally, you may consider adding guest speakers, field trips, and real-world projects to enhance the learning experience.*

# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters

**Course Title:** <span style="color:red">Audio Mixing Masterclass</span>

**Course Description:**

*Welcome to the Audio Mixing Masterclass, where you'll learn the art and science of creating professional-grade audio mixes for music, podcasts, film, and more. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced audio enthusiast, this course will take you from the basics to advanced techniques, helping you achieve that polished and captivating sound you've always desired.*

### Module 1: Introduction to Audio Mixing

- Understanding the role of an audio mixer
- Essential concepts: frequency, amplitude, panning, and dynamics
- Introduction to common mixing software and tools

### Module 2: Setting Up Your Mixing Environment

- Optimal room acoustics and studio setup
- Choosing the right monitors and headphones
- Calibrating your listening environment

### Module 3: Preparing Tracks for Mixing

- Organizing and labeling your audio files
- Cleaning up audio: noise reduction and editing
- Understanding track roles and arrangement

### Module 4: Basic Mixing Techniques

- Balancing levels: achieving a coherent mix
- Utilizing panning for spatialization
- EQ fundamentals: shaping the tonal balance

### Module 5: Dynamics and Compression

- Understanding dynamics processing
- Using compressors, limiters, and gates effectively
- Multiband compression for frequency-specific control

### Module 6: Advanced Equalization

- Surgical EQ techniques for addressing problem areas
- Frequency carving and notch filtering
- EQ automation for dynamic changes

### Module 7: Creative Effects and Mixing Techniques

- Applying reverb, delay, and modulation effects
- Creative use of automation for movement and excitement
- Parallel processing and bussing

**Module 8: Mixing Vocals**

- Techniques for blending lead and background vocals
- De-essing and vocal-specific effects
- Harmonies and doubling

**Module 9: Mixing Different Genres**

- Genre-specific mixing considerations
- Case studies in mixing different musical styles

**Module 10: Mixing for Other Media (Podcasts, Film, etc.)**

- Tailoring mixes for speech and dialogue
- Sound effects integration and Foley mixing
- Working with surround sound formats

**Module 11: Mastering Basics**

- Introduction to audio mastering
- Preparing your mix for the mastering process

**Module 12: Collaboration and Feedback**

- Giving and receiving constructive feedback
- Collaborating with artists and clients

**Course Project:**

*Throughout the course, students will work on a mixing project of their choice, applying the concepts learned in each module. The instructor and peers will provide feedback and suggestions to help students refine their mixes.*

**Prerequisites:**

*No prior audio mixing experience is required, but basic knowledge of audio recording and digital audio workstations (DAWs) will be helpful.*

By the end of this course, you will have the confidence and skills to produce well-balanced, sonically pleasing audio mixes that stand out in the industry. Let's dive in and start your journey to become an audio mixing expert!

# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters

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**Course Title:** <span style="color:red">**"Beat Making Mastery: From Basics to Hit Productions"**</span>

**Course Description:**

*Unlock the art of beat making and become a music production virtuoso with our comprehensive "Beat Making Mastery" course. Whether you're a beginner looking to create your first beats or an experienced producer aiming to refine your skills, this course will guide you through every step of the beat making process. From understanding rhythm and melody to mastering digital audio workstations (DAWs) and creating professional-grade beats, you'll emerge as a beat making maestro.*

### Week 1-2: Introduction to Beat Making

- What is beat making?
- History and evolution of beat making
- Understanding different beat genres
- Setting goals for the course

### Week 3-4: Music Theory Essentials

- Basics of music theory
- Understanding rhythm and timing
- Building blocks of melodies and harmonies
- Applying music theory to beat making

### Week 5-6: Tools of the Trade

- Introduction to Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)
- Choosing the right equipment and software
- Setting up your home studio
- MIDI controllers and hardware vs. software

### Week 7-8: Drum Programming

- Anatomy of a drum kit
- Programming realistic drum patterns
- Layering and sequencing drum sounds
- Adding groove and swing to your beats

### Week 9-10: Melody and Harmony

- Crafting catchy melodies
- Incorporating harmonies and chords
- Utilizing virtual instruments and synthesizers
- Creating unique musical elements in your beats

**Week 11-12: Arrangement and Mixing**

- Song structure and arrangement techniques
- Effects processing and sound manipulation
- Mixing and mastering your beats
- Preparing beats for distribution

**Course Highlights:**

- Hands-on practical exercises for each module
- Weekly beat making assignments
- Personalized feedback on your work
- Collaborative beat making sessions with fellow students
- Guest lectures by industry professionals
- Access to a library of sample packs and sound libraries
- Tips for marketing and promoting your beats
- Final project: Create and present your original beat portfolio

*By the end of this course, you'll have the skills and knowledge to produce professional-quality beats, whether for your own music, collaborations, or for sale in the music industry. Don't miss this opportunity to turn your passion for music into a rewarding beat making career.*

**Prerequisites:**

- Basic computer skills
- Access to a computer with a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)
- A willingness to experiment, learn, and collaborate

**Who Should Enroll?**

- Aspiring music producers
- Musicians interested in expanding their skills
- Songwriters looking to create custom beats
- Anyone with a passion for music production

Join us on this exciting journey into the world of beat making and start crafting your own musical masterpieces today!

# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters

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**Course Title:** <span style="color:red">DJ Fundamentals</span>

**Course Description:**

*Welcome to the "Fundamentals of DJing" course, where you will embark on an exciting journey to master the art of mixing music and become a skilled DJ. This comprehensive course is designed for beginners and aspiring DJs who want to learn the essential skills and techniques required to create seamless, captivating DJ sets. From understanding the equipment to crafting electrifying performances, this course will cover everything you need to know to thrive in the world of DJing.*

**Week 1: Introduction to DJing**

- What is DJing and its history
- Understanding the roles and responsibilities of a DJ
- Overview of various DJ equipment (turntables, controllers, mixers, etc.)

**Week 2: Music Theory for DJs**

- Introduction to music theory concepts
- Understanding song structure, BPM, and key signatures
- How to count beats and bars

**Week 3: DJ Equipment and Software**

- In-depth exploration of DJ hardware and software
- Setting up your equipment and understanding its functionalities
- Introduction to DJ software (e.g., Serato, Traktor, Virtual DJ)

**Week 4: Beatmatching and Phrasing**

- Mastering beatmatching by ear
- Understanding phrasing and how to mix in key
- Transition techniques (fades, cuts, and blends)

**Week 5: Mixing Techniques**

- Advanced mixing techniques (looping, EQing, filtering)
- Creating smooth and creative transitions
- Using effects to enhance your mixes

**Week 6: Introduction to Turntablism**

- Basics of turntablism and scratching
- Developing rhythmic scratching skills
- Incorporating turntablism into your sets

**Week 7: Building a DJ Set**

- Understanding different types of DJ sets (club, festival, radio)
- Structuring your set for maximum impact
- Harmonic mixing and track selection

**Week 8: Performance and Crowd Management**

- Developing stage presence and confidence as a DJ
- Reading the crowd and adjusting your set accordingly
- Dealing with technical challenges during performances

**Week 9: Recording and Promoting Your Mixes**

- Recording your DJ sets
- Basic audio editing and post-production techniques
- Sharing your mixes on social media and online platforms

**Week 10: Career Development for DJs**

- How to get gigs and build a reputation as a DJ
- Networking and collaborating with other artists
- Legal considerations and copyright issues

**Final Project:** Create a 15-minute DJ mix showcasing your skills, creativity, and the concepts learned throughout the course. Present your mix to the class for feedback and constructive critique.

**Course Conclusion:**
By the end of this course, you will have a strong foundation in DJing, enabling you to perform confidently at various venues and events. Whether you aspire to become a club DJ, festival performer, or radio show host, this course equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to stand out in the competitive world of DJing. So, get ready to take your passion for music to the next level and embark on an exciting journey as a DJ!

# Crafted Producers: Studio Masters

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**Course Title:** <span style="color:red">**The Art and Craft of Songwriting**</span>

**Course Description:**

*Unlock your musical potential with "The Art and Craft of Songwriting," a comprehensive 12-week course designed to guide you through the intricacies of creating memorable songs. Whether you're an aspiring songwriter or an experienced musician looking to refine your craft, this course provides a structured approach to developing your songwriting skills.*

*Throughout the course, you'll explore the essential elements of songwriting, including melody, harmony, and lyric writing. You'll learn to draw inspiration from various sources and transform your ideas into compelling songs. Each week, you'll engage in hands-on activities and creative exercises to stimulate your imagination and enhance your technical abilities.*

**Weeks 1-2: Introduction to Songwriting**

• **Session 1:** Understanding the Basics

- Overview of song structure (verse, chorus, bridge)
- Melody and harmony fundamentals
- Lyric writing essentials

• **Session 2:** Inspiration and Creativity

- Finding inspiration for songwriting
- Creative exercises to stimulate ideas
- Developing a unique voice as a songwriter

**Weeks 3-4: Mastering Lyrics and Poetry**

• **Session 3:** Crafting Powerful Lyrics

- Word choice and imagery
- Writing compelling narratives
- Exploring different lyric styles

• **Session 4:** Poetry in Songwriting

- Understanding poetic devices
- Transforming poetry into lyrics
- Analyzing famous song lyrics as poetry

**Weeks 5-6: Melody and Harmony**

• **Session 5:** Building Catchy Melodies

- Basics of melody construction
- Exploring different melodic styles
- Creating memorable hooks

• **Session 6:** Harmony and Chord Progressions

- Introduction to harmony
- Crafting effective chord progressions
- Experimenting with unconventional harmonies

**Weeks 7-8: Song Structure and Arrangement**

• **Session 7:** Structure and Form

- In-depth analysis of song structures
- Experimenting with non-traditional forms
- Creating dynamic arrangements

• **Session 8:** Arranging for Impact

- Instrumentation choices
- Dynamics and pacing
- Building tension and resolution

**Weeks 9-10: Songwriting in Different Genres**

• **Session 9:** Exploring Genres

- Understanding various musical genres
- Analyzing songwriting conventions in different genres
- Blending genres for a unique sound

• **Session 10:** Genre-specific Techniques

- Genre-specific lyric writing tips
- Melodic and harmonic considerations for different genres
- Case studies of successful genre-blending songs

**Weeks 11-12: Songwriting as a Career**

• **Session 11:** Collaboration and Co-writing

- Strategies for successful collaboration
- Co-writing exercises
- Navigating creative difference

• **Session 12:** The Business of Songwriting
- Copyright and royalties
- Building a songwriter's brand
- Pitching songs and working with publishers

**Final Project:**

Students will apply the concepts learned throughout the course to create their own original song. This final project will be presented, discussed, and critiqued in the last class session.