

Audio Arts + Acoustics

Creating a sound world

MISSION STATEMENT

As practitioners of sound arts and sciences, the faculty of the Audio Arts + Acoustics Department at Columbia College are committed to advancing the foundation, practice, and aesthetic criteria necessary to maintain and enhance our discipline as the principal medium of communication and personal expression.

We are committed to offering our students the tools and the opportunities to build, reinforce, and maintain the fundamental knowledge and skills that are required for a successful career in a technologically intensive environment.

We believe that we must nurture a strong liberal arts component as an integral part of our program. We are dedicated to offering our students every reasonable opportunity to express their creativity in a fashion compatible with and complimentary to the academic standards of our department.

We are committed to our program's reputation among industry and other peer institutions; it is this commitment that drives our Department's growth. Hence, we encourage dialogue between our program and the industry, and we foster the growth of interaction between our students and their peers.

We pledge to actively promote the Mission of Columbia College Chicago by engendering an educational climate where the value of social and cultural diversity is recognized.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO...

Students, faculty, and staff of the Audio Arts + Acoustics Department study sound, the most omnipresent and evocative of sensations, and hearing, the most versatile and intuitive of senses.

We offer comprehensive undergraduate study, facilities, and expertise in

- live and recorded sound design, engineering, and production,
- environmental and architectural acoustics,
- vibration/noise measurement and control,
- hearing physiology and sound perception, and
- design and management of audio installations.

The single overarching learning goal underlying our department's mission is best stated as: ***"The Audio Arts + Acoustics Department provides students with the knowledge, skills, and artistic sensibility necessary to systematically and expertly control sound and sound structures."***

We accomplish our goal by exploring the sonic world from a variety of perspectives that include

- *Physics* – mechanics, acoustics, electronics, and the underlying basic mathematics
- *Physiology, Psychology, Aesthetics* – perceptual, cognitive, and cultural bases of hearing, making sense of, and evaluating sound
- *Technology* – the analog and digital resources used to capture, process, analyze, model, store, and/or distribute sound
- *Sound Art* – the creative bases of artistic expression in sound

Our students engage in a variety of media, technologies, practices, and aesthetics:

- sound production for music, sound art, cinema, broadcast, and multimedia
- sound synthesis and signal processing
- performance sound for live music, theater, dance, worship, and other cultural events
- sound system design for recording, performance, commercial, and civic spaces
- acoustical engineering for evaluation and design of physical or virtual spaces
- research on sound generation, perception, measurement, and control

A passion for sound has shaped our lives as artists, scientists, and professionals. As teachers, we focus our expertise and energy on student learning and development. If you aspire to become an expert in the art and science of sound, the Department of Audio Arts & Acoustics will provide you with the knowledge, skills, intellectual space, and resources necessary to accomplish your goal.



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