

New Technologies – New Music

In-Class Exercises

Exercise #1: Plugola and Conflict of Interest Quiz

Objective: Test your knowledge and application of Plugola and Conflict of Interest regulations.

1. You perform in a band and the band is playing a gig Friday night. You announce this on your show. Is this Plugola?
2. You perform in a band and the band is playing Friday night in a benefit for a local charity. You announce this on your show. Is this Plugola?
3. You're the volunteer band manager for your friend's band and they are playing on Friday night in a benefit for a local charity. You announce this on your show. Is this Plugola?
4. You perform in a band and the band is playing a gig Friday night. You announce this on your show as part of the station's regular community calendar feature. Is this Plugola?
5. A concert promoter gives you tickets to give away on your show as well as a pair of tickets for you and a guest. You play the music of the band appearing at the concert and give away the tickets on the air. Is this Plugola?
6. A concert promoter promises you a phone interview with a famous musician who is coming to town on Friday if you play that artist's music every day that week. Is this Plugola?

Exercise #2: Be the DJ

Objective: Practice downloading music tracks and setting them up for airplay in an automation system.

Go to the following websites to download 4 songs to iTunes, getting one song from each url:

<http://ccmixter.org/>

<http://www.freemusicarchive.org/prelaunch/>

<http://ibiblio.org/>

<http://www.jamendo.com/en/>

Set up a playlist in iTunes with the songs you've just downloaded. Adjust the playback volume for each song. Create good segues between each one, lining the songs up with appropriate cross-fades. Either manually DJ (play each song) or start the first song and watch it crossfade to the next, and on and on. Your session leader will provide instructions to the whole class and on an individual basis.

Exercise #3: Creating a Playlist

Objective: Use the iTunes application to put together a playlist of 6 tracks that are stored in different folders on the computer hard drive.

Using song files that can be found in different folders on the computer's desktop, create a playlist of 6 tracks or more that reference files from the different folders without moving any of the files to a single folder. Your session leader will provide instructions to the whole class and on an individual basis.

Exercise #4: Editing and Tagging Audio Files

Objective: Gain experience with editing song files and tagging them in Audacity for playback in WinAmp.

Part A:

- Open Audacity on your desktop. Spend a few minutes looking over the interface as your session leader points out some of the program's features.
- Open the .wav file on your desktop in Audacity.
- Do a "Save As" to create a work copy of the file.
- Check the bit depth and sample rate for the file.
- Cut off the silence at the beginning and end of the file.
- Listen to track, checking for any red-flag words ("indecent" per FCC definition). Decide how to deal with them if any are present. (Hint: there is one instance)
- Check the levels. If any seem way out of whack, adjust using the Envelope tool. If a fade in or fade out is necessary, perform those as well using the Envelope tool or the Fade In or Fade Out effects.
- Normalize the file.
- Save a copy of the file as an mp3 at 256 kbps, 44.1 sampling rate, stereo. (Choose: "Export as MP3")
- When prompted to find the dll file, navigate to the dll file sitting on the desktop and hit "OK."
- Choose ID3 v2 for the tag info
- Enter title of song, with spaces, in title case (capitalize first letter of each word).
Title: The League of Impressionable Teens
- Enter tag info as follows:
Artist: So Cow
Album: These Truly Are End Times
Year: 2007
Genre: Pop
Comments: Covert Bear Records, CD, February 2007
<http://iamsocow.com/>

Part B:

- Open WinAmp on your desktop. Spend a few minutes looking over the interface as your session leader points out some of the program's features.
- Your session leader will give you instructions on how to enter in the following tag information:
Copyright: So Cow, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0>