



CRMT160 Mixcraft Week 1: Module Launch & Mixing Fundamentals

Dr Simon Waite
January 2023



Week 1: Contents

- Mixcraft in Context
- Module Overview
- Learning Outcomes
- Assessment Overview
- Learning Space Overview
- Next Steps
- Note-taking

CRMT160 Mixcraft in Context

Mixcraft aims to:

1. Develop critical, creative judgement in approaches to mixing applicable to a wide range of musical genres
2. Develop technical skills in sound mixing across a range of technologies
3. Develop a critical understanding of the relationship between mixing processes and musical practice

CRMT160 Mixcraft in Context

Other production modules:

- CRMT120 Studiocraft: recording and editing
- CRMT150 The Electronic Toolkit: electronic instruments and composition
- MSI140 Core Music Practice: develop your specialism
- CRMT220 Art of Production: role of the producer, more advanced and collaborative techniques, creating an EP

Module Overview

Part One: Fundamentals

- Week 1: Module Launch & Mixing Fundamentals
- Week 2: Compression & Dynamics
- Week 3: EQ & Harmonic Effects
- Week 4: Non-Teaching Week
- Week 5: Signal Flow & Delay Effects
- Week 6: Time & Pitch Correction

Part Two: Real-world Contexts

- Week 7: Creative Vocals: Vox & Verb
- Week 8: The Digital Mix
- Week 9: Drums Up!
- Week 10: Introduction to Mastering

Part Three: Assessment & Feedback

- Week 11: Sound & Digital Audio Recaps
- Week 12: Formative Feedback Tutorials (group)
- Week 15: Summative Feedback Tutorials (individual)

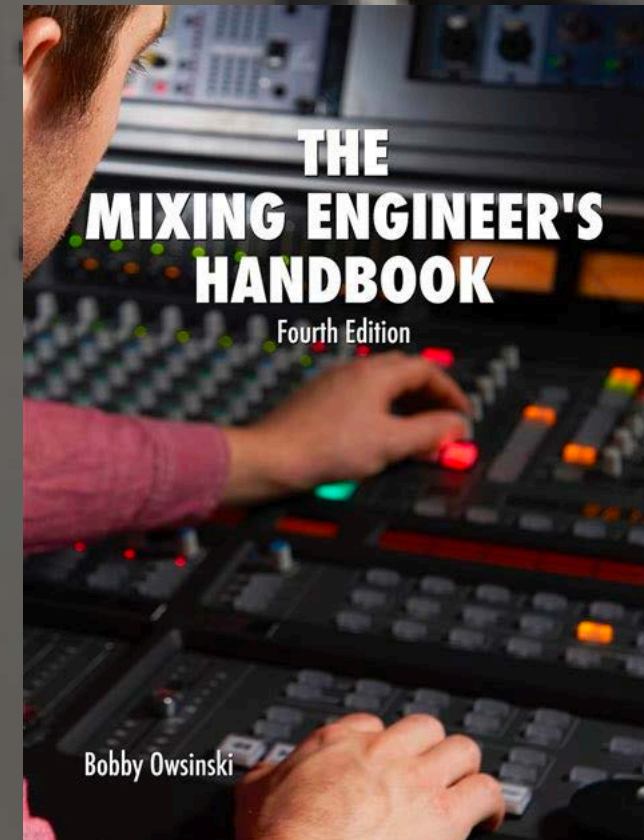


Assessment Overview

- 2 Assessments
- Full details in the Assessment Briefs on the Learning Space
- Please read these carefully
- Ask questions and get feedback

Learning Space

- **Overview**
- **Assessment**
- **Resources**
- **Forum**
- **Weekly learning materials**

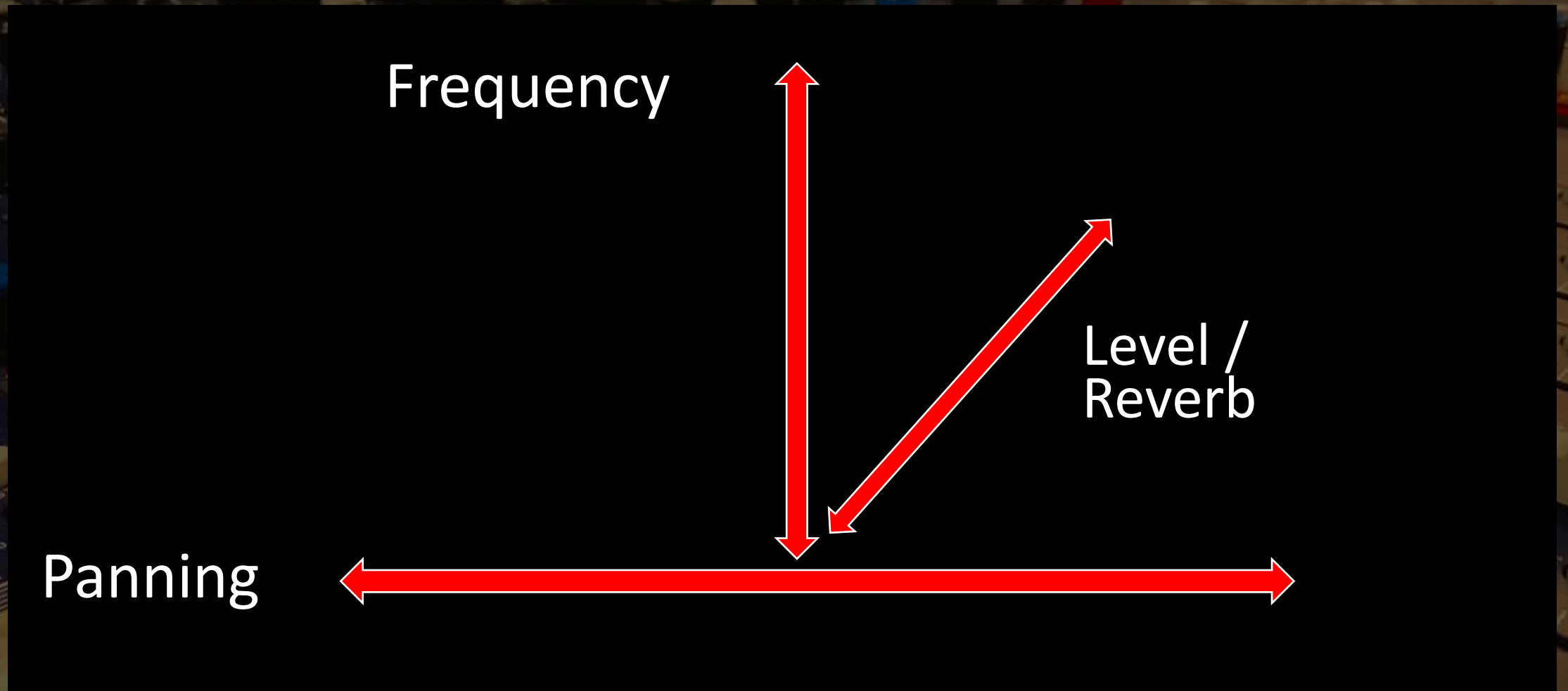


Mixing Fundamentals: What is Mixing?

- Definitions
- Mixing approaches:
 - Naturalistic: sonic photograph
 - Transformative: sonic cartoon
- Stable vs distinctive
- The mix as a picture (in 4D)



Mixing Fundamentals: The Mix as a Picture



Mixing Fundamentals: Key Processes

Process	Technique / Tools
Corrections	Time, pitch, phase, EQ
Levels	Gain, faders
Dynamics	Compression
Frequency balance	EQ
Space	Panning, reverb

Mixing Fundamentals: Questions

- What are the stages involved in mixing?
- What is the relationship between mixing and composition / arranging?
- What is the relationship between mixing and recording?
- What is the relationship between mixing and mastering?
- What are the most common mixing mistakes?
- What are some top tips?

Next Steps

- Workshop tasks
- Seminar
- Independent Study

