

MUSTC 123 / Hands-on Assignment #2: Reverb & Delay

Objective: The objective of this exercise is to become acquainted with the effects of reverb and delay, and their most common parameters.

Overview: You will be routing a microphone to the tape machine and monitoring it through the console. Also, using an aux send, you will send the microphone signal to the Lexicon MPX550 multi-effects processor. While speaking into the microphone you will make certain parameter adjustments on the MPX550 and document the changes you hear. You will keep notes on your results during the assignment and prepare a full report.

Due date: May 27th (for the Monday/Wednesday classes) and May 26th (for the Tuesday/Thursday class), submitted online via Ohsi.

What you will hand in: A two to three page summary of what you accomplished and **what you learned**. The report will also describe your observations for all of the parameter changes you were directed to make.

Step 1: This exercise will be performed in **groups of 2 or 3**. The first thing you need to do is form a team to work with.

Step 2: Book an available 2 hours in room 806 with Studio E (Instructional cart). Booking is done on the SCC Studios website: <http://success.shoreline.edu/sccstudio>. Choose one person from your team to fill out the form with their name and email address, and have them put the remaining three names in the 'extra comments' field.

Step 3: Show up on time for your session. Missing a session will result in a drop in your grade for the assignment. You must check in with the studio supervisor on duty before beginning your session. They will take your student ID as collateral. You will also need to check out a Shure SM58 microphone, which will be in the office.

Step 4: Roll the cart to a good spot and plug in the long extension cord. First, turn on the power strip. Turn on the Alesis recorder. Finally, turn on the speakers.

Step 5: Make sure the console is zeroed (all buttons in the up position, all the faders down, all knobs in default position).

Step 6 (Channel Path In-line. Try to do this from memory first): Plug the microphone into the mic input on channel 1. On channel 1 set the MIC/LINE switch to MIC and set the FLIP switch to MIC/LINE. Set the channel 1 fader to unity and send the signal to subgroup 1 by pressing the 1-2 assign button and panning all the way left. Set the SUBGROUP 1 Master fader to unity. Put the Alesis recorder into ALL INPUT mode. Raise TRIM on channel 1 while speaking into the mic. You should see signal on the track 1 meter.

Step 7 (Monitor Path In-line. Try to do this from memory first): On channel 1, set the MIX B source to FLIP SWITCH. Turn up the MIX-B level. Set the MIX-B master fader to unity. Assign MIX-B to the L-R mix and set the L-R mix master fader to unity. Make sure the monitor source is L-R mix and turn up the speakers. You should now hear the mic over the speakers.

Step 8 (The aux-send): Turn up AUX-SEND 1 on channel 1 to about 12 o'clock. Make sure the PRE button for aux-send 1 is not pressed. Set the Aux-1 master fader to unity.

Step 9 (Patching to the MPX550): Patch out of AUX SEND 1 into the MPX550 Left in. Patch out of MPX550 out L & R into channels 31 & 32 line in. On channels 31 & 32 set the MIC/LINE switch to LINE and the FLIP switch to MIC/LINE. Send the two channels to the L-R mix, pan them left and right, and raise the faders. Now, you should be hearing the MPX550.

Step 10 (Exploring a reverb): On the MPX550, set the INPUT TRIM to 12 o'clock. Use the program knob to select program number 2, MEDIUM PLATE. Press LOAD to load the program. When speaking into the microphone, you should now hear a medium reverb. Using EDIT KNOBS 1-4 edit the following parameters. To see more parameters press the EDIT PAGES button to the left of the knobs. As you change the parameters, note how the sound changes and include descriptions in your report.

- Decay
- HF Rolloff
- PreDelay
- BassMult
- Diffusion
- Size

Step 11 (Exploring a delay): Repeat step 10 with program number 90, Dly Mono Tap. Note the changes that happen when editing the following parameters:

- Delay Level
- Delay Feedback
- Mix
- L Dly 1
- R Dly 1

Step 12: If you have extra time, experiment with the MPX550 and console as much as you can, and let me know what you figure out. The feedback I get from you in this area is part of your grade.

Step 13: Turn off the speakers. Turn off the Alesis recorder. Turn off the power strip, zero the console, and return the cart to the corner and place the sheet over it.