

Ableton 101

Leicester
College



Learn Ableton Live at Leicester College

The course will offer students a full introduction to the principles and practices of Ableton Live. Based in a practical workshop environment students will have access to their own personal workstation where they will apply and practice their production skills.

The course will be broken down into the following sessions:

Introduction to Ableton Live

MIDI & Instruments

Audio & Warping

Effects & Automation

Arranging, Mixing, and Routing

Performing & DJ'ing with Live

These sessions will aim to develop students' production skills; using MIDI and Audio to create a track; how to make creative use of effects; how to arrange and structure a track; how to mix their track; and how to use their track as part of a performance.

Students will be instructed via tutor demonstration during the sessions providing an opportunity to observe, discuss, and apply practice and techniques. Students will also be expected to use the Ableton Live manual and other provided resources to reinforce the theory of Ableton Live's concepts such as MIDI principles, audio warping, and track mixing.

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Introduction to Ableton Live

Introduction and Session Aims and Objectives

What can Live do? (Demonstration)

Installing and Unlocking Live for the first time

Preferences;

- *Setting up Live*
- *Setting up a MIDI Controller*
- *Understanding technical configuration*

File Management; *Understanding how files are organised and accessed*

User Interface; *Understanding the layout and different editing modes in Live:*

- *Arrangement View*
- *Session View*
- *The Mixer*
- *Clip View*

MIDI & Instruments

Session Aims and Objectives

Instruments: *Introduction to Live's instruments*

MIDI Basics; *Deconstruction of a preset clip*

Recording and Programming MIDI Clips (Beats & Synths)

Editing MIDI Notes and Velocities

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Audio & Warping

Session Aims and Objectives

Introduction to Audio; *Loops and Hits,*

Deconstruction of a Preset Loop; *Identify Hit Points and Clip Properties*

Audio Manipulation; *Warping, Looping, and Envelopes*

Bouncing; *Capturing Manipulated Audio*

Recording Audio; *Arrangement and Session View*

Effects & Automation

Session Aims and Objectives

Using MIDI Effects

Using Audio Effects

Dynamics Processors; *Using EQ and Compression to Create a Balanced Mix*

Send Effects; *Using Delay and Reverb in Multiple Tracks*

Using Automation; *Selecting, Programming, and Editing Automation*

Real-time Automation; *Using your MIDI Controller to Automate Effects*

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Arranging, Mixing, and Routing

Session Aims and Objectives

Arrangement Basics; *Components of a Track*

Editing Arrangements; *Moving, Cropping, and Repeating Clips*

Using the Mixer; *Editing Volume and Pan to Create your Mix*

Setting up Groups to Create Sub-mixes

Track Automation

Busses, and Auxiliary Channels

Performing & DJ'ing with Live

Session Aims and Objectives

Breaking Your Track Down

Working With Scenes; *Naming and Setting BPM Values*

MIDI Controllers; *Assigning Controllers to Parameters*

Audio Cues and Output Configuration

Live Effects; *Making Creative use of Live Effects*

Recording Your Performances

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Suggested Reading List

Ableton Live User Manual (Reference)

Robinson. Ableton Live: *making music on the fly*. (2009) Focal Press

Marquillies, J. Ableton Live 8 Power!: *The Comprehensive Guide* (2009) Delmar Learning

Monthly Magazines

Computer Music

Future Music

Music Tech

Cost

Full - **TBC**

Student - **TBC**

Times

The course will run over 5 sessions, each session being 2.5 hours

Please contact mtowers@lec.ac.uk for more course enquiries.

Leicester College

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