

## **DMI STUDIOS – STUDENT ENGINEER LEVELS**

<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>CLASSES REQUIRED</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	<b>PRIVILEGES</b>	<b>PAY SCALE (w/paying client)</b>
Studio Assistant (entry level)	Enrolled in or completed DMI 102 or 111	General assistance throughout facility (gofer, clean up, setup/teardown)	Minimal access (stands, cables, headphones)	Minimum wage
Assistant Engineer (intermediate level)	Completed DMI 102 and DMI 111; Enrolled in (or completed) DMI 103 and DMI 112	Assistant to main engineer on session; responsible for session setup to engineer's specs. Checking in/out gear; On/off sequence in all three studios	Access to selected mics and shop	Minimum wage + \$1.25 per hour
Journeyman Engineer (advance level)	Completed DMI 102, 103, 111, 112; Enrolled in (or completed) DMI 322	Responsible for all aspects of a session, start to finish	Access to all mics	Minimum wage + \$2.50 per hour

## **STUDENT ENGINEER PROFICIENCIES**

<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>WRITTEN</b>	<b>PRACTICAL</b>	<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>
Studio assistant	80% passing grade on written test	100% passing grade on applied test	1 semester +
Assistant Engineer	85% passing grade on written test (including vocabulary)	100 % passing grade on applied test	2 semesters +
Journeyman Engineer	95% passing grade on written test (including vocabulary)	100 % passing grade on applied test	3 semesters +

## **STUDY GUIDE FOR DMI STUDIO ASSISTANT**

Vocabulary:

Bi-directional (Mic pattern)  
Cardioid (Mic pattern)  
Omni (Mic pattern)  
Condenser Microphone  
Dynamic Microphone  
Ribbon Microphone  
Phantom Power

Applicants need to be able to identify:

Male XLR  
Female XLR  
TRS Jack (3-conductor 1/4" connector)  
TS Jack (Standard 1/4" connector)

Studio assistants need to:

Demonstrate how to properly roll and store an audio cable.  
(It is mandatory to VIEW the video on how to properly roll a cable.)

Demonstrate how to make a great pot of coffee.

Demonstrate how to properly sweep, dust, and clean studios.

Demonstrate how to answer the phone and deal courteously with a client.

Demonstrate the ability to listen...don't give your opinion unless asked, and then give it only with great diplomacy.

GOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE is of the utmost importance!

## QUESTIONS FOR STUDIO ASSISTANT TEST

The XLR connector on a microphone is:

- a. Male
- b. Female

What is a transducer?

- a. A device that transmits audio by electricity.
- b. A device that transforms energy from one form into another (acoustical to electrical energy).
- c. None of the above.

Which statement describes a cardioid pickup pattern?

- a. A unidirectional pattern.
- b. A heart-shaped pattern.
- c. A & B
- d. None of the above.

Which statement describes an omni directional pickup pattern?

- a. A pattern that picks up from all directions equally.
- b. A pattern that picks up in a hemispherical pattern.
- c. None of the above.

Which statement describes a bi-directional pickup pattern?

- a. A microphone that picks up from the back as well as from the front.
- b. A microphone that is sensitive in two directions.
- c. A figure 8 microphone pattern.
- d. All of the above.

What is the „Good Rule“?

- a. It's all good.
- b. Good musician + good acoustics + good mic + good placement + good performance = Good Sound.
- c. Good equipment + good instrument + good mic + good console = Good Sound.
- d. None of the above.

What does a direct box do?

- a. It reduces an instrument's line-level output to mic level for direct insertion to a microphone preamp input.
- b. It changes an instrument's unbalanced, high source impedance line to a balanced low-source impedance signal needed by a preamp.

- c. It electrically isolates audio signal paths between the instrument and pre amp stages.
- d. All of the above.

Which of the following is not a good archiving or backup strategy?

- a. Copy all data (music and session files) to another hard drive for long-term storage.
- b. Consolidate all music tracks to be continuous files.
- c. Make multiple copies of everything.
- d. Don't make a copy, store them in your closet. so they won't get lost.

How are MIDI connectors In, Out & Thru used?

- a. MIDI OUT connectors transmit MIDI data.
- b. MIDI Thru connectors relay data sent to the MIDI in port.
- c. MIDI In connectors receive data from other MIDI devices.
- d. All of the above.
- e. None of the above.

Recording the original parts of a song is done during which phase of modern music production?

- a. Recording.
- b. Overdubbing.
- c. Mixdown.

Creating a final stereo balance of a recording is done during which phase of modern music production?

- a. Recording.
- b. Overdubbing.
- c. Mixdown.

Adding parts to a song that has already been recorded is part of which phase of modern music production?

- a. Recording.
- b. Overdubbing.
- c. Mixdown.

Demonstrate how to properly roll and store a cable.

## **STUDIO ETIQUETTE TIPS**

Some tips to remember if you are serving as a studio assistant, an assistant engineer, or journeyman engineer:

- 1) DON'T offer your opinion unless asked, and even then, offer your opinion VERY carefully.
- 2) Do NOT repeat information you hear in the studio among clients. That is THEIR business.
- 3) You are there to DO YOUR JOB. It that means making coffee and taking out the trash, do it well and with purpose.
- 4) BE COURTEOUS and POLITE even if other people aren't.
- 5) If the atmosphere gets volatile in the studio or control room (which it sometimes will with creative endeavors), learn how to gracefully EXCUSE yourself from the room.