

## Pro Tools Production II for PT11 (Course PT201)

*Pro Tools 201: Pro Tools Production II for PT11* is part of the Avid Learning Series.

*Pro Tools 201: Pro Tools Production II* is designed as an intensive two-day course or as a traditional course covering several weeks or months. The coursework covers the core concepts and skills you need to operate an Avid® Pro Tools® HD 11 system in a professional studio environment. The main topics in this course are followed by exercises that take you step-by-step through the Pro Tools functions that you need to know.

Students should have access to a Pro Tools 11 or later system running Pro Tools HD software to complete the exercises.

The material presented in this course provides the foundation for later 200-series Pro Tools courses, including:

- Pro Tools 210M: Music Production Techniques
- Pro Tools 210P: Post Production Techniques

Upon successful completion of the 200-series coursework, you will be eligible to take the Avid *Pro Tools Operator Certification* exam. For more information on Pro Tools certification, visit Avid's Worldwide Training website at <http://www.avid.com/support/training>.

## Prerequisites for This Course

Prerequisites for this class include successful completion of Pro Tools 101 and 110 courses with passing scores on the course completion exams. This course requires that you have a solid understanding of computer operations, digital audio, and MIDI recording concepts, and such Pro Tools fundamentals as the following:

### Computer Skills:

- Identifying the components of a computer and a Pro Tools system and their functions in relation to audio
- Locating, moving, and renaming files and folders
- Opening, saving, and closing session files
- Restarting the computer and its components, including external drives, audio interfaces, and other system components

### Audio and MIDI Concepts:

- Disk-based, random access audio recording and playback
- Multi-track recording
- Basic mixing and signal routing
- Digital audio concepts: sample rate and bit depth
- MIDI controller connections, data types, and signal flow

### Pro Tools Fundamentals:

- The Pro Tools session file structure
- Opening, navigating, and saving Pro Tools sessions
- Creating new tracks in Pro Tools sessions
- Assigning Inputs and Outputs in the Mix and Edit windows
- Using controls in the Mix window such as Volume, Mute, Solo, Pan, Inserts, and Sends
- Using AudioSuite Plug-ins to process audio
- Using the Zoomer, Selector, and Grabber tools in the Edit window
- Using Shuffle, Spot, Slip, and Grid Edit modes
- Using Transport window controls to play back and record audio and MIDI

For beginning students, Avid offers the Pro Tools 101 course, Introduction to Pro Tools, and the Pro Tools 110 course, Pro Tools Production I. These courses cover the basic concepts and skills you need in order to take the Pro Tools 200-series courses. If you are a beginner in the field of audio production, you may want to refer to some independently available literature on audio recording tools and techniques.

## **Lesson 1 (Pro Tools HD Hardware)**

Introduction

Pro Tools System Basics

- Components of Pro Tools HD Hardware Systems
- Pro Tools HD Audio Interfaces

Understanding the Pro Tools Mixer

- HD Native Technology
- Floating Point Processing

Optimizing Pro Tools HD

- Setting Pro Tools Hardware Options
- Other Hardware Setup Options
- Setting Pro Tools Playback Engine Options
- Viewing System Usage

## **Lesson 2 (Customizing Pro Tools)**

Introduction

The I/O Setup Dialog Box

- Controls in I/O Setup
- I/O Setup Options
- Active and Inactive Paths
- Creating and Editing Paths
- Importing and Exporting I/O Settings

Pro Tools|HD Native Hardware Low Latency Monitoring

- Configuring Low Latency Monitoring in the I/O Setup
- Enabling Low Latency Monitoring in the Pro Tools Session
- Low Latency Monitoring and Bounce To Disk

Working with Window Configurations

- Using the Window Configuration List
- Settings Included in Window Configurations
- View Filter Icons
- Recalling Window Configurations
- Updating Window Configurations
- Storing Window Configurations in Memory Locations

Making Track Assignments

- Identical Assignments (Recap)
- Cascading Assignments

Pro Tools HD Metering Options

- Meter Types
- Additional Meter Display Options

Customizing Pro Tools through Preferences

- The Display Page
- The Operation Page
- The Metering Page (Pro Tools 11 and Later)

## **Lesson 3 (Session Configuration and Navigation)**

Introduction

Voice Allocation

- Track Priority
- Explicit Voice Assignment

- Changing the Priority of Tracks
- Deactivating Tracks

#### Disk Allocation

- Selecting Disk Allocation Options
- Reallocating Tracks

#### Scrolling, Navigation, and Display Options

- Edit Window Scrolling Options
- Navigation and Playback Techniques
- Auto Scrolling to Track in the Mix and Edit Windows
- Applying Custom Colors to Tracks
- Applying Marker Colors
- Applying Opacity Levels to Colors

#### Status Indicators

- Data Online Indicators
- Delay Compensation Indicator
- Solo and Mute Indicators
- Sync Status Indicators

#### Duplicate Tracks Function

#### Export Selected Tracks as New Session

### **Lesson 4 (Session Management)**

#### Introduction

#### Workspace Browsers Overview

- Volume Focus
- Session Focus
- Catalog Focus
- User Focus

#### Using Workspace Browsers

- Searching Items
- Databases and Indexes
- Workspace Browser Menu
- Customizing the Workspace Browser Display
- Column Data

#### Task Manager Overview

- Task Manager Columns and Displays
- Pausing and Canceling Tasks
- Failed Tasks
- Pausing Tasks During Playback

#### Sessions with Missing Files

- Opening Sessions with Missing Files
- Relinking Missing Files in an Open Session
- Find All Candidates vs. Find Links

### **Lesson 5 (Selection Techniques)**

#### Introduction

#### Creating Selections

- Timeline Selections
- Edit Selections
- Working with Timeline and Edit Selections
- Additional Selection Techniques
- Selecting Left or Right of the Cursor
- Linking Track and Edit Selections

#### Nudging and Shifting

- Nudging Audio Clips
- Nudging Edit Selections

- Trimming with Nudge
- Nudging a Clip's Contents
- Using the Shift Command

#### Auditioning Selections

- Shuttle Mode with the Scrubber
- Changing How the Scrubber Tool Affects Selections
- Making Selections with the Scrubber Tool

#### Auditioning the Start and End of a Selection

- Pre-Roll Audition and Post-Roll Audition
- Commands Keyboard Focus Mode Shortcuts

#### Storing Selections in Memory Locations

- Memory Location Properties
- Creating Selection Memory Locations

## Lesson 6 (Editing)

### Introduction

#### Alternate Tools and Tool Functions

- Alternate Zoomer Tool Functions
- Alternate Trim Tool Functions
- Alternate Selector Tool Functions
- Alternate Grabber Tool Functions
- Smart Tool Functions (Recap)

#### Advanced Edit Techniques

- Strip Silence
- Auto Fades (Pro Tools HD Software Only)
- Creating Sync Points
- Clip Alignment

#### Commands Keyboard Focus Mode

- Enabling Commands Keyboard Focus
- Commands Keyboard Focus Shortcuts
- Nudging with Commands Keyboard Focus

## Lesson 7 (Clip Gain)

### Introduction

#### Clip Gain Basics

- Static Versus Dynamic Clip Gain
- Clip Gain versus Automation

#### Clip Gain Display Options

- Clip Gain Info View
- Clip Gain Line View

#### Editing Clip Gain

- Using the Clip Gain Fader
- Using Edit Tools and Functions

#### Advanced Clip Gain Functions

- Converting Between Clip Gain and Volume Automation
- Coalescing Between Clip Gain and Automation
- Bypassing Clip Gain
- Rendering Clip Gain

## Lesson 8 (Automation)

### Introduction

#### Pro Tools HD Automation Modes

- Automation Mode Functions
- Touch/Latch Mode Scenario

## Working with Automation

- Enabling Automation
- Viewing Automation while Writing
- Viewing Multiple Automation Playlist Graphs
- Resizing Automation Lanes
- Using AutoMatch Functions
- Automating Plug-Ins
- Automation Preferences

## Writing Automation over Long Sections

- Manual Write Automation Commands
- Write Automation on Stop Commands

## Editing Automation

- Toggling Automation Follows Edit
- Special Cut, Copy, Paste, and Clear Commands
- Trimming Automation with the Trim Tool
- Extending Automation Values Later or Earlier

## Suspending Automation

- Globally Suspending Automation
- Suspending Automation on Tracks
- Suspending Individual Automation Parameters

# Lesson 9 (Mixing and Plug-In Processing)

## Introduction

### Common Mixing Settings

- Solo Modes
- Solo Button Behaviors
- Mixing Preferences

### Basic Submixing

- Bus Routing
- Bus Interrogation

### Plug-In Linking

### Working with Plug-In Settings

- Recalling Settings with the Plug-In Librarian Menu
- Using the Plug-In Settings Menu
- Plug-In Settings Storage Locations
- Importing, Copying, and Pasting Plug-In Settings
- Deleting Plug-In Settings
- Working with Plug-In Presets

### Side Chain Processing

- Using Key Input Filters
- Using Side-Chain Processing

### Processing-Induced Delays

- Showing Sample Delay
- Using the Time Adjuster Plug-In
- Automatic Delay Compensation

# Lesson 10 (Advanced Mixing and Finishing Techniques)

## Group Attributes

- Global Attributes
- Modifying Attributes
- Group Attribute Presets

## Working with Groups

- Enabling and Disabling Groups
- Selecting Members of a Group (Recap)
- Showing/Hiding Members of a Group

- Suspending and Isolating Group Functions

#### VCA Master Tracks

- Creating a VCA Group
- VCA Track Controls
- VCA Level Meter

#### Creating a Final Mix

- Mixdown Options
- Using Multiple Track Outputs

#### Mixdown Techniques

- Bounce to Disk
- Layback Using an Internal Mix Bus (Internal Layback)
- External Stereo Mixdown (External Layback)
- Multi-Track Mixdown
- Multiple Stereo Mixes (Stem Layback)

#### Converting High Sample Rate Sessions to CD-Compatible Versions

- Sample Rate Reduction Workflow
- Bit-Depth Reduction Workflow