

EMF New Headphone Policy

Starting in the Spring 2011 semester, it will be the responsibility of the student to supply his or her own headphones. The EMF department will no longer supply headphones in editing suites, audio labs or with equipment.

It is recommended that the student do research and purchase headphones of high quality. Low quality headphones will not allow you to mix or record properly, as certain frequencies will be inaccurate causing your recordings to sound “bassy” or “tinny.”

These will be the headphones you use for all field audio and studio recording and mixing sessions, so choose carefully.

** Full size stereo headphones that fit around or on your ear, and do not have emphasized bass or noise cancelling are strongly recommended. **

Other factors to consider:

- Full range frequency response (as flat a line as possible in the frequency response graph – headphone.com<<http://headphone.com>> has frequency response graphs for all popular headphones)
- Comfort - make sure they rest lightly and comfortably on the ear, creating a controlled environment for better sound.
- Connectivity - ability to either use ¼” or 1/8” (3.5 mm) connectors (may need adapters)
- Cable length - longer is better, so you have slack while moving. Some headphones will allow you to choose between coiled or straight-length
- Portability – Can they fold? There might be a trade-off between the portability and comfort of the headphones.

A list of possible headphones is listed in a B&H Wish List that includes headphones recommended by the audio EMF teachers. <http://www.bhphotovideo.com/wl/3A3D8032B3>

December 2010