



Alternative Mixing Courses

As I was developing Mix By Design, I enrolled in a few other online mixing courses. You'll find reviews and comparisons of these courses below, so you can make an informed decision about which course is best for you.

This list is by no means exhaustive—there are lots of other mixing courses you won't find here. Please take my opinions with a grain of salt, as I am obviously biased. However, I tried to be as objective as possible in my evaluations.

Hardcore Mixing

This is a course from Jordan Valeriote at Hardcore Music Studio. It's geared towards students who are mixing rock or heavy metal music.

Towards the beginning of the course, Jordan shares his mixing theories in a series of short videos. There's solid advice here, and it can be applied beyond the rock/metal genre.

The bulk of this course is a walkthrough where Jordan opens up a completed mix in his DAW and shows you the plugins and processing he used. I have a lot of problems with this format. Since Jordan walks you through a mix he's already completed, you primarily see only WHAT he did. You don't get to see his mixing process in action, or understand WHY he made the moves he made (though he does offer explanations at times). This walkthrough falls flat for these reasons. Since Jordan's approach doesn't align with the way I feel students learn best (by focusing on WHY instead of WHAT), I can't recommend this course.

Price: \$297

Learn more at <https://hardcoremusicstudio.com/courses/>.

Demo To Pro

Demo To Pro is a course from my friend Rob Mayzes at Musician on A Mission. It covers the entire music-making process—from recording and editing to producing and mixing. This course is more comprehensive than Mix By Design, which covers mixing only.

There's lots of great content here, and Rob does a good job of explaining concepts and ideas with high-quality videos that are fun and engaging. Rob's teaching style is best for beginners who are not overly technical. Intermediate or advanced music-makers looking for details will be left wanting more.

This course offers a foundational overview of each part of the music-making process. However, the focus of this course is too broad to cover any part of the process in great detail. There is no full mix walkthrough (like in Mix By Design), though Rob offers plenty of demos.

If you're a beginner who is looking for a comprehensive overview of the entire music-making process, I think this course is a great choice. If you're an intermediate or advanced student looking to dive deep into mixing or music-making in general, it wouldn't be my first choice.

Price: \$399

Learn more at <https://www.demotopro.com>.

Mixing University

This is Graham Cochrane's (The Recording Revolution) flagship course on mixing.

Graham does a great job of explaining concepts in an approachable, down-to-earth way. The material in this course is practical and easy to understand. Most of the lessons are very basic (even more so than *Demo To Pro*), which makes this an excellent course for absolute beginners. Graham's teaching style is more prescriptive than mine—there's a lot more “here's WHAT to do” than “here's WHY to do it.” If you're a beginner who finds yourself overwhelmed

with too much theory, you may find this helpful. However, intermediate mixers will be left wanting more.

This course includes tutorials that walk through the basic features of most major DAWs (Pro Tools, Ableton Live, Studio One and Logic). This is great if you're a beginner who doesn't yet know your way around your DAW. Graham also includes several walkthroughs where he mixes tracks from start to finish. This was my favorite part of his course.

Many of the videos in this course are taken directly from Graham's YouTube channel. They are the same exact videos you can find on YouTube for free. Though there's a lot in this course you can't find on YouTube, I find this slightly disappointing.

Overall, Mixing University is an excellent course on mixing for beginners. Intermediate to advanced students will find the material too basic.

Price: \$299

Learn more at <https://www.recordingrevolution.com/products/>.

The Pro Audio Files Courses

The Pro Audio Files offers a wide variety of courses on mixing. These courses are much shorter in length than Mix By Design, and the majority of them focus on specific aspects of the mixing process (compression, EQ, etc.).

Out of all the teachers on The Pro Audio Files, my favorite is Matthew Weiss. He does a great job of explaining concepts and ideas, and he's a good choice for advanced mixers.

In comparison to Mix By Design, these courses lack structure. The video quality is subpar, and the majority of the content is based around in-DAW demos. Mix By Design covers much more of the theory behind mixing, whereas these courses mostly cover mixing "in action." In my experience, both are important, and that's why I've included both theory and a mix walkthrough in Mix By Design.

The Pro Audio Files courses are great if you're an advanced mixer looking to fill specific gaps in your abilities. If you're looking for a broad overview of the entire mixing process, I don't think these courses are your best choice.

Price: Varies (\$47 to \$97, subscription option also available)

Learn more at <https://theproaudiofiles.com/>.