



Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: What is the Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying?

A: The Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying is the first comprehensive curriculum in the U.S. for DJs. The program focuses on helping new and existing DJs with their knowledge, skills, and competency in the art of DJ'ing. The curriculum consists of introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses in beat mixing, scratching, mobile DJ'ing, and PC DJ'ing using vinyl, CD, or MP3s. The program is based on the academy's Disc Jockey Body of Knowledge (DJBOK).

Q: What is the Disc Jockey Body of Knowledge (DJBOK)?

A: There is a lot more to DJ'ing than you might be aware of. The Disc Jockey Body of Knowledge (DJBOK) is an attempt to represent the sum of knowledge within the disc jockey profession. It includes knowledge of proven, traditional practices which are widely applied as well as knowledge of innovative and advanced ones.

Q: What must be accomplished to complete the Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying?

A: The certificate is awarded to students who pass the minimum number of courses, pass a written final exam, record a mix CD, pass a live DJ'ing performance, and complete an internship. Both the mix CD and live DJ'ing performance provide students, instructors, and potential employers with proof of their DJ'ing competency.

Q: Who can apply for the certificate program?

A: The certificate program is open to all students 14 years of age or older.

Q: Is there a required textbook for the certificate program?

A: Yes. The DJ Mix Academy has selected *How to DJ Right* as the textbook that will be used throughout the Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying. This book is included free with certificate program application acceptance.

Q: Is the program more geared towards club, mobile, or radio DJs?

A: With its emphasis on beat mixing and scratching techniques, the certificate program is more geared towards the club and mobile jock.

Q: Is the program geared more towards using vinyl, CD, or MP3s?

A: All of the above. Both analog and digital formats on CD and vinyl are covered by the certificate program.

Q: How many courses must be taken?

A: Seven (7): four (4) required courses and three (3) elective courses.

Q: What are the required courses?

A: The required courses are:

- DJ 101: DJ'ing I
- DJ 201: DJ'ing II
- DJ 301: DJ'ing III
- DJ 401: Final Project

These mandatory courses must be completed by all students. A full course catalog containing course descriptions, prerequisites, and costs is available by contacting the DJ Mix Academy.

Q: What is DJ 401: Final Project?

A: The outcome of taking the DJ 401 course is for students to create their own mix CD. The mix CD is a thirty (30) minute (minimum) recording of a student beat mixing 6 – 10 songs. The CD is one example of the proof of competency aspect that is integrated within the certificate program. The CD can also be included as part of the DJ's portfolio as a tool to get bookings.

Q: I don't have the equipment needed to record my mix CD for DJ 401: Final Project. What can I do?

A: Arrangements can be made with the DJ Mix Academy for the use of their Master DJ Booth including a CD recorder so that you can work on and record your mix CD for the DJ 401 course.

Q: What are the elective courses?

A: The elective courses allow the student to specialize in one or more areas of interest. They consist of introductory (100-level), intermediate (200-level), and advanced (300-level) courses including, but not limited to:

- DJ 111: Vinyl DJ'ing I
- DJ 121: CD DJ'ing I
- DJ 131: Scratching I
- DJ 141: Mobile DJ'ing I
- DJ 151: PC DJ'ing I
- DJ 161: Hip-Hop DJ'ing I
- DJ 231: Scratching II
- DJ 241: Mobile DJ'ing II
- DJ 251: PC DJ'ing II (Final Scratch)
- DJ 252: PC DJ'ing II (PCDJ)
- DJ 261: Hip-Hop DJ'ing II
- DJ 331: Turntablism
- DJ 341: Mobile Entertainment
- DJ 361: Hip-Hop DJ'ing III

If a student meets the prerequisite(s), a 200-level or 300-level course can be taken as an elective course. A full course catalog containing course descriptions, prerequisites, and costs is available by contacting the DJ Mix Academy.

Q: What do I get with each course?

A: Courses typically include an instructor-written Student Handbook and/or PowerPoint slides, DJ headphones, a textbook, DJ Tips and Tricks DVD, audio CDs, a DJ Mix Academy t-shirt, and a Certificate of Achievement.

Q: How long is each course?

A: Each course will consist of four (4) classes, each class lasting two (2) hours in duration, once a week, for four (4) weeks (total hours/course: 8), with the exception of DJ 101 which is a ten (10) hour course.

Q: Is there homework?

A: Yes. For example, homework may consist of students listening to a CD of music and calculating the beats per minute (BPM) of each song.

Q: I've taken DJ 101 and/or DJ 201 in the past. Will these courses count towards the program?

A: Yes. If you've taken a DJ Mix Academy course in the past it will count towards this certificate program. You do not have to re-take a course that you've already taken.

Q: Will DJ-related courses that I've taken at a college/university or another DJ school count towards the program?

A: It depends. Each student's past courses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Q: Where are the courses offered?

A: Courses are held at our schools located in Tyngsboro, MA and Essex, MA USA.

Q: I don't live in the Boston area. Can I still pursue the certificate program?

A: Yes. To accommodate students who do not live in the Boston area but still want to earn the certificate, the academy will also offer this program through its Mobile DJ Mix Academy where we bring our school to you. In addition, through our new Global DJ Mix Academy, you can learn at home through a self-study program.

Q: I'd like to focus on scratching. How can I do that within the certificate program?

A: The elective courses offer students the ability to customize their own certificate program. For example, if you're interested in scratching, you may take DJ 131: Scratching I, DJ 231: Scratching II, and DJ 331: Turntablism.

Q: What does the final exam consist of?

A: The purpose of the final exam is to assess students' learning of the material covered in the certificate program. This written examination may consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. A passing grade of eighty five percent (85%) or better is needed to graduate.

Q: What does the live DJ'ing performance consist of?

A: The live DJ'ing performance is an opportunity for students to showcase their learned and improved DJ'ing skills live and in front of our instructors. The song selection should be identical to the ones recorded on the mix CD as part of DJ 401: Final Project. Students will receive constructive feedback after the thirty (30) minute (minimum) performance. A passing grade of eighty five percent (85%) or better is needed to pass this live performance.

Q: What does the internship consist of?

A: Students will spend a month with a professional club or mobile DJ learning the ins-and-outs of DJ'ing in the real world. Students will write a short paper afterwards describing their experiences and lessons learned.

Q: How much does the certificate program cost?

A: Individually, each course costs \$325 and with the \$75 application fee, the total cost is \$2,350. Discounts are available for former students (alumni) and if you decide to prepay for courses ahead of time. Contact us for more information.

Q: How do I apply for the certificate program?

A: Interested students need to complete the Certificate Program in Disc Jockeying Application Form, pay a non-refundable application fee, and submit a mix CD showcasing their current DJ'ing skills. The purpose of the mix CD is to benchmark a student's DJ'ing skills and is used as a basis for improvement. Upon acceptance into the program, applicants become a matriculating student.

Q: What does becoming a "matriculating student" mean? How do I maintain my matriculating status?

A: Once accepted into the certificate program, an applicant becomes a matriculating student. Students can maintain their matriculating status by taking a minimum of one (1) course every three (3) months. If not, student will lose their matriculating status and will need to re-apply to the certificate program.

Q: How long can I take to complete the certificate program? Do I have to finish in any fixed timeframe?

A: Assuming that you take one (1) course consecutively per month, you will complete all the courses in seven (7) months. You may also concurrently work on your mix CD while you are taking classes. The final exam will be administered after you complete your 7th (last) course. The live DJ'ing performance would be the last item to be accomplished. In all, the certificate program can be achieved in as early as eight (8) months.