

Audio Engineering Schools: Are they worth it?

By
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Hello there, guys, on this post I am going to share with you my personal opinion about **audio engineering schools** and if they worth it.

Many people send me an e-mail asking me:

1. Are Audio Engineering Schools worth it?
2. Will the school make you a better producer?
3. Is the degree worth in general?
4. Can I make money by mixing other people's albums?



You Do Not Need A Degree To Do This For A Living

I will answer you directly. You do not need any degree to record, mix or create full produced albums for artists.

Actually some of the most famous music producers have never gone to an audio engineering school.



Think simply

Let's say you're a customer looking for someone to record your mixes and your album.

The No1 producer has a perfect production, a fantastic sound that will make you think “omg that’s a fantastic sound” and the second one’s sound is average.

Who would you trust?

The No1 producer of course. And what does this indicate?

That it does not matter if someone has a “better degree” than another’s, cause his “ degree” is his sound.

There is no better degree and better proof that he knows what he’s doing than his own sound that he can produce by himself.

Is this not reasonable? If the result is what you are looking for... Will you trust someone just because he has a piece of paper that says “that he is good, trust him”?

If I, as an artist, want a great sound for my album ... then I’ll pay attention that the sound he can produce is great for my album – simple as that – And not that he just owns a piece of paper...

If you can pay for school, go!

Before you think I’m against the audio engineering schools... Let me share my honest opinion with you...

It’s worth it only in some areas. For example ...

- * Public relations.
- * Communication with other producers.
- * You share your passion for music and sound.
- * You can come in contact with high-tech recording and mixing equipment.

All these concepts differ from school to school though.

Unfortunately several schools, are not updated with the latest equipment and they are only worth for their “paper” (degree).



Question: “Have you gone to an audio engineering school?”

For some reason many people ask me if 've went to school.

Reasonably, many people want to know if what I say is worth it – which I find perfectly logical – but I can not reveal many details for obvious reasons.

Some people might think that I am getting paid for an “ad school promotion” and some people might think that going to school really matters.... For these 2 basic reasons I am not gonna say much.

But what I can say though is that I have went to school yeah. Was it worth it? Yes, but only for the things that I've mentioned above.

Could you live without it, if the pointers above wouldn't really matter for you? **Absolutely yes.**

There are countless tutorials on the web that teach you the same stuff as schools do and allow me to add that... they might be even better than schools.

What Really Counts

Whether you go to school or not, if you do not spend some time practicing and “exercising” your ears, you will not succeed much.

No audio engineering school will take you by the hand and tell you “come on dear why aren't you trying hard... you're paying us, you should practice!”.

If you have passion about music production and you love it then trust me... nothing will feel hard to achieve.

You just need to spend hours in your home studio, **no matter if you go to school or not.**

You will learn from your mistakes and become better day by day.



Practice... Practice... Practice

Before I even started attending lessons in school I had started my own studio. Yes it was pretty small and amateur at first, but I focused on things that mattered – things that would really improve my sound.

Do not spend money on fader-controllers with “cool lights”. I've actually spent money on things that improved my

sound – converters for example.

I am not gonna lie – I prefer using a controller rather than clicking a mouse.

But when I've heard the sound that I got after that I had upgraded my converters, then the "Shift+Click" method for an accurate and smooth level balancing didn't seem bad at all.

The secret is to make good choices in the beginning. Choices that someone will prefer YOU for your sound and not the "lights" on your console. That's what I did and earned my first money.

Showing off is not a way to make money. ut if you insist on showing off something... **Show off your sound.** That's what matters.

When I had got my first money, then I got better controllers and amplifiers and slowly I've built an entire studio.

And all that happened because I had worked hard, I became better and I spent countless hours in front of amplifiers, microphones, computers and VST plugins.

Nobody can stop you

If you think you are "doomed" because you have not enough money to go to an audio engineering school, then there's really no need to worry.

Having not the opportunity to go to an audio engineering school, does not mean you're doomed to not learn about things that you love... It will just need a little extra effort, that's all.

Back to Mixing



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