



# immersive audio unlearning

Standard Technical Requirements | October 2024

[www.radical-edu.com](http://www.radical-edu.com) | [info@radical-edu.com](mailto:info@radical-edu.com)

Immersive Audio Unlearning (IAU) requires careful technical preparation, and communication with the entities responsible for the space or hosting. Here is a compilation of technical requirements which usually informs the entities hosting IAU sessions in advance of all the aspects that must be considered during preparation.

## Summary

Although Immersive Audio Unlearning is an educational methodology, it requires dedicated technical preparation, just like the performing arts. Preparatory work can involve sound technicians from within the host organization. Scheduling sound tests in advance is essential. The basic equipment for an IAU session includes a microphone and a mixing desk connected to a sound system. The sound system can take on different configurations, depending on factors such as the size of the space, the size of the group and the existing equipment on site. Other important technical factors regarding the venue relate to comfort conditions and ensuring individual private space for each participant. An IAU session usually takes 90-120 minutes and there can be a great deal of flexibility in the size of the audience.

## Details

### a. Space, Acoustics, Natural Lighting and Comfort

IAU needs a space with good acoustic conditions. During the immersive moment, silence is required from adjacent areas - indoors or outdoors. The session has moments when the sound reaches peak volumes, so it is not advisable to have parallel activities in adjoining spaces where noise can be a nuisance. It is essential to have doors that can close off the space during the immersive moment.

Although the immersive moment preferably takes place with minimal natural light, the end of the sessions benefits from the possibility of obtaining natural light in the space.

The comfort of the room is fundamental in IAU sessions, the most important factors being the furniture and the temperature. Two options have worked best so far:

c1 - (preferable) a very comfortable auditorium (like a movie theatre) with twice the seating capacity of the group, so that people don't sit next to each other. Wooden chairs are not comfortable enough. Cushioned chairs may be comfortable enough. Blankets can also help provide a more comfortable environment but are not necessary if there is air conditioning. In this format, people remain seated.

c2 - an open-space room, with possibly enough sofas, mattresses, *pouffes* and cushions for the whole group, allowing enough private space for each participant. In this format, people generally prefer to lie down.

c3 - other room configurations are certainly possible but have not been tested.

## **b. Sound and Lighting System and Projector**

On-site sound systems can be used if there are *true stereo* loudspeakers and subwoofers suitable for the characteristics of the session. In this case, it is important to anticipate the need for a person responsible for the existing equipment to be present, both during the session and during scheduled tests.

Preferably the sound doesn't go through a second mixing desk (for example, a control room in an auditorium), but this can be an option as long as the person responsible for the sound has a good grasp of the complexity of this option. During the session, the mixing desk on stage should preferably have full control of the sound volumes and equalization.

The main mixer used on stage is the Yamaha MG10XUF. It has 2 stereo main outputs (L+R XLR) + 2 stereo outputs (L+R TRS) + two stereo monitor outputs, with independent volume control (L+R TRS).

The cables connecting the sound system to the stage mixer should preferably be those available on-site, due to their suitability. It is important to use balanced cables.

The possibility of providing your sound equipment depends on the specific characteristics of the session and must be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The use of house lights is preferred and is usually simpler for the person in charge of the equipment. IAU does not require special stage lighting conditions, but the characteristics of immersion benefit from it.

IAU needs a projector (ceiling type), and a PC with internet access for a PowerPoint presentation using the Slido<sup>1</sup> tool, which must be installed and tested beforehand. The projection screen should preferably be located behind the "stage" area. The screen should be positioned so that when participants arrive and settle in, they are facing the projected information.

## **c. Preferred schedule and testing**

IAU benefits significantly from a morning schedule, a time when people are generally more refreshed. In any case, easy access to drinks such as tea, coffee or other products that help restore energy levels is recommended.

A test must be carried out in the room with access to the entire sound system and the freedom to make noise. In the case of morning sessions, this test should take place the day before. In the case of sessions at other times, it is possible to carry out the test on the same day, as long as it is done up to two hours in advance. The duration of the tests depends on the technical conditions, usually taking 1-2 hours. In any case, a final test is always carried out about an hour

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.slido.com/powerpoint-polling>

before the scheduled session time. If home equipment is used, a person responsible for it must be present.

**d. Image and/or video recordings and privacy**

Groups participating in IAU need privacy. In the case of consent, it is possible to collect images and/or video. However, this collection must not produce any noise, particularly during the immersive moment. For example, photographs should be taken in silent shutter mode. Access to the room during immersion is, of course, very limited.

**e. Dissemination and Contact with Participants**

It's important to estimate the approximate size of the group in advance. Advance registration or a ticketing system can be a way of fine-tuning this number. In addition to the general information about the session made available in advance by the means of dissemination deemed appropriate, it is essential to highlight the following information:

+16

Good rest is recommended the night before the session.

Comfortable clothing is recommended.

Due to the characteristics of the session, it is not possible to integrate late arrivals.

The immersive moment is experienced with eyes shut and requires total silence from the group of participants.

Electronics should be switched off during the experience.

The Immersive Audio Unlearning experience can arouse intense emotions, so a considered decision to participate is recommended in cases where this is perceived as a risk.