

Course Outline

Applied Music Lessons – Piano Studio

Marianna Chibotar–Rutkevich

Fall/Winter

2023/24



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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to help pianists develop as performers and realize their full artistic potential; this course provides the necessary preparation for a professional performing career as well as piano pedagogy (Music Education) with a focus on the solo repertoire for this instrument. Students will develop a profound understanding and awareness of the physical aspects of performing and refine their general musical literacy.

- ▶ students are encouraged to be present and participate in all Public and Guest Masterclasses organized within the Piano Division.
- ▶ the participation in annual Studio Recitals is obligatory and included into the student's Studio performance mark.
- ▶ the participation in Studio Master Classes is obligatory and included into the student's Masterclass performance mark.
- ▶ students are encouraged to attend as many Recitals as possible, even if virtual or recordings, as we are continuously learning from performances of others as well as from our own performances.
- ▶ students are encouraged to practice their technique daily regardless of if they are preparing for their technique test or not.
- ▶ students enrolled in performance classes are encouraged to listen to various professional recordings performed by renowned piano masters
- ▶ we will book sessions to listen and observe certain recordings together in our Studio Masterclasses followed by in class discussions.
- ▶ Attendance of 12 piano/related recital/events is strongly encouraged but Recital cards are NOT required this 2023-2024 Academic year.

UWO POLICY STATEMENTS

Course Pre-requisites: It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have met all requirements of course pre-requisites. University policy states: Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees if you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

REFERENCES

For lessons/MC/jury, see the following MPS Handbook document here:
<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/MPS%20pdf/lesson-requirements.pdf>

For recitals, see here:
<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/credit-recitals.html>

POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Grading and Evaluation

- ▶ Preparation weekly repertoire lessons
- ▶ Preparation for the Studio Masterclasses
- ▶ Preparation for Studio recitals
- ▶ Quality and amount of repertoire covered
- ▶ Continues improvement shown throughout the semester/academic year

Graduate Grading & Progression

The student's professor will provide a mark out of 100 based on progress over the term and preparation for masterclasses and/or performances. Students must achieve a mark higher than or equal to 70 to register in a subsequent course.

For a more detailed description of the Course requirements for your particular course number, you can consult the Don Wright Faculty of Music web page at this address:
<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

Undergraduate Grading

The proportions of marks for the various components of the course will be calculated as follows:
MU1920, 2920, 2921, 3920: Jury Mark 25%, Performance Class Mark 10%, Term I mark 32.5%, Term II mark 32.5%

Grading scale:

Undergraduate: A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

Graduate: A=80-100%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, F=0-59%

Lesson format and lengths

Students registered in any of the following Applied courses receive 24 lessons of 50 minutes each or its equivalent, normally 12 per term: 1920, 1925, 2925, 2920, 2921, 2922, 3925, 3920, 3922, 3929, 4925, 3921, 4920, 4921, 4922, 4923, 4929. Students registered in 3924y or 4924y receive 12 hours of lessons, spread throughout the year.

Undergraduate performance majors registered in one of the following courses also receive 12 lessons of 50 minutes, oriented toward recital requirements: 3921, 4921, 4922, 4923.

Graduate students in Literature and Performance receive 48 lessons (50 minutes duration each, spread over four terms (9509a, 9584b, 9585a and 9786b), normally 12 lessons per term.

CANCELLATIONS

If studio instructor cancels the class, that lesson must be made up. If a student cancels a lesson for any reason, the teacher is not obligated to make it up.

Non-Studio Repertoire

As a matter of courtesy and good pedagogy, all students should inform their studio teachers as early as possible of non-studio repertoire that they have been asked or assigned to work on in addition to their studio course load. This includes repertoire for TA assignments.

Practicing

In preparing for juries or recitals, students should pace their practicing carefully, doing regular amounts every day. Practicing, like any other physical activity, requires fitness and a daily routine; students who cram in many hours of practice in panic preparation for a coming examination and who have not been practicing regularly throughout the year, run the risk of physical injury, and possible serious interruption of their Applied courses.

Piano Performance Major Practice Rooms, located in the Music Building, are rooms 226-230. During the first week of classes, roughly equal numbers of piano performance majors will be assigned to some of these rooms.

Masterclasses

Masterclasses will take place as per Studio Instructor's announcement. All Music undergraduate students registered for individual instruction, *excluding 1925, 2925, 3925, 3929, 4925, 3924y, 4924y, 4929 and all MMUS Students* are required to participate in performance classes as part of their Applied Music course and final mark.

Graduate students are not required to attend masterclasses but are welcome and encouraged to do so and to take advantage of the performance opportunities they provide.

Performance Class Mark

The performance class instructor submits a grade out of 10 that represents the participation of the student in performance class, and which counts as 10% of the final grade.

Juries

All undergraduate students taking Applied Music instruction are required to take a jury examination.

- All Honors Performance, Artist Diploma and Music Performance Diploma students registered in 3921, 4921, 4922, 4923 will do a jury in December. The repertoire will be selected from the Jury Requirements for each instrument, out of which 10 minutes will be heard. Piano majors registered in 2921 will do a 10-minute jury in December in addition to the 20-minute jury in April. The mark for the 2921 piano jury in Dec. will count as 10% of the teacher's Term I studio mark.

- All students registered in 1920, 1925, 2925, 2920, 3924y, 3925, 2921, 3920, 3922, 3929, 4924y, 4920, 4925 or 4929 will do a year-end jury in April scheduled at 15-minute intervals. Refer to the chart below for how much music is to be prepared plus see the jury requirements for your instrument and course number.

Jury Requirements

Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with Jury Requirements for their instrument, as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook.

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/jury-requirements.html>

PIANO:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/juryRequirements/PIANO%20jury%20requirements.pdf>

Jury Repertoire Form

Students who are doing an Applied Music jury in December or April, must obtain a Jury Repertoire Form from an Undergraduate Assistant in TC210 or their studio teacher, complete it accurately, hand it in to their instructor for approval and signature no later than Nov. 15 for December juries and March 15 for April juries. Repertoire must be listed in the order in which the student wishes to play it. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that the repertoire submitted for examination meets the requirements. Presentation of repertoire that does not meet the requirements could result in the jurors refusing to hear the jury.

The studio teacher will collect the repertoire forms from all of their students, sign them and, when all have been received, hand them in to an Undergraduate Assistant in TC210 by Nov. 15 or March 15 as applicable for insertion into the jury envelopes, along with the jury report forms. If the jury repertoire form, signed by the teacher, is missing from the jury envelope, or if a student appears at a jury with an unsigned form, the jury will proceed to grade the playing/singing but the mark will be withheld from the Registrar and kept in the Department office until the Dept. Chair has consulted the teacher. Please note that changes in repertoire can be accommodated after the Nov/March 15 deadline if submitted by the studio teacher in writing to the Dept. Chair.

Repertoire submitted for jury examination may not have been previously performed in a jury or credit recital. Works requiring accompaniment must be performed with an accompanist, and students are responsible for providing their own accompanists.

RECITALS

Graduate Recitals

Graduate students in performance are required to register for the appropriate recital course and must also book their recital date and time in early October. For more information about Graduate Recitals please visit this page: <https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/credit-recitals.html>

NOTES:

I. Course Outline

i) **Course Prerequisites:** [None or previous year's studio lessons (192x, 292x, 392x, 492x) as applicable]. Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

ii) **Grading scale:**

Undergraduate: A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

Graduate: A=80-100%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, F=0-59%

iii) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work ($\geq 10\%$):** Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate policy on accommodation for medical illness at the following website for further details regarding requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

iv) **Academic Consideration for Missing Work ($< 10\%$):** In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (ie. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean's office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

v) **Academic Offences:** Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

vi) **Mental Health & Wellness:** Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

vii) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

viii) **Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

<http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

ix) **Contingency Plan:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

x) **Gender-Based and Sexual Violence:** Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519 661-3568

xi) **Electronic Devices in Classrooms:** The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Important Dates for Fall /Winter 2023-2024:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/dates.html>

The Pianists' Kata

- Love practicing your instrument, we only learn to really play our instrument by doing it systematically and consistently.
- Listen to other pianists, performances and recordings. Learning from amazing historical recordings can be as important and beneficial as practicing that repertoire. Attend live recitals and concerts, discuss your ideas and thoughts with your teacher, other pianists, classmates and colleagues you trust and value.
- Do not be afraid of any Repertoire or technical challenges.
- Do not be afraid of challenging and demanding lessons and masterclasses, we are able to draw the truth of our craft from every musical and learning experience.
- Create goals and guidelines for yourself; time management is extremely valuable in every musician's career and learning path.
- Record your own playing and performances, positive criticism is very valuable constituent part of our pianistic development.
- Look out for various opportunities to collaborate with other pianists, instrumentalists, and singers, learn from different musicians playing different instruments, harvest how they are conveying their musical ideas and meanings.
- Choose and work on repertoire in different styles and genres, we are so fortunate to have such amazing music written for our instrument. Constantly remind yourself how important is to be your teacher in between the sessions with your teacher, understand and remind yourself how your body and the way you use your hands/shoulders/ elbows/wrist can affect your stamina and the quality of your tone as well as your performance in general.
- “The interpreter is really an executant, carrying out the composer's intentions to the letter. He doesn't add anything that isn't already in the work. He allows us to glimpse the truth of the work that in itself is a thing of genius and that is reflected in him. The performer should not dominate the music, performer should dissolve into it.” Sviatoslav Richter