



HORST STUDIO POLICY 2023/2024

www.bethanyhorst.com

beth.horst@gmail.com

bhorst2@uwo.ca

Cell: 519-8973374

Courses: 1920, 1925, 2920, 3920, 4920, 2921, 3921, 4921, 9509a, 9584b, 9585a, 9786b and CCM Pedagogy 3771b

Welcome! I look forward to helping you develop your vocal abilities, pedagogy, wellness and musicianship through the study of varied and challenging repertoire, here at Western. Our studio is one of collaboration and kindness, with a focus on performance and community engagement. Whether your goals lie in education, performance, a joint degree or otherwise, I hope to assist in your vocal development while you hone an array of skills during your time here. Looking forward to working with you!

LESSON EXPECTATIONS

SCHEDULING

Lessons occur at your scheduled time on Mondays, Thursdays and/or Fridays. I spend the rest of the week performing and teaching in other cities, but am happy to receive emails or texts with questions you might have, anytime. This year has a few 'special dates' so there is a chart in a separate doc with more information.

Lessons are typically **50 minutes/2 x 25 mins OR 3 x 25 minutes* (for 3rd/4th performance*)**, providing me a gap between students to make notes. Lessons start 35 min after the hour, for 50 min.

Please wait

CANCELLATIONS

If I cancel a lesson, it will be rescheduled. If you miss, are late for, or cancel a lesson, under most circumstances this lesson is not made up (DWFOM policy). If your lesson time is in direct conflict with a Faculty event or performance, I require

at least a week's notice in order to attempt to reschedule your lesson. Please attempt to take care of these conflicts by **switching lessons with a colleague.** **Inform your pianist of these switches.**

ILLNESS

If you are sick, please email me asap, as a courtesy for my scheduling. There is a possibility of receiving a makeup lesson IF you email and IF time permits.

MATERIALS

Please bring to each lesson: music, pencils, water, staff paper for technical exercises, a recording device (optional) etc. **All music** should be properly translated and IPA'd (if necessary) before singing. Notes and rhythms should be adequately prepared.

The better prepared a piece is, the more we'll be able to accomplish.

I encourage you to seek out repertoire in the major languages (at least Eng, French, Italian, German, bonus Spanish, Latin, Mandarin, Russian, etc.) from a variety of eras, appropriate to your vocal ability and Fach. We will work together along with your pianist in choosing programmes and material for auditions, juries, recitals, etc.

POSTINGS

I will inform you of upcoming auditions, juries, competitions, recitals and concerts as they pertain to Western and elsewhere. Please share with the studio if you are participating in a performance on - or off -campus. Be sure to join the Voice Area Page and Don Wright Faculty Page on **Facebook** for the latest updates regarding events at the faculty.

OUTPUT

Included in the DWFOM Handbook are suggested song **minimums** for undergraduate lessons as follows:

Performance:

1st year: 14 songs

2nd: 16 songs

3rd: 40 min recital + 5 songs/arias/Dec. jury

4th: 50 min recital + 5 songs/arias/Dec. jury

All other voice majors:

1st year: 12 songs

2nd: 14 songs

3rd: 15 songs*

4th: 15 songs*

*more advanced selections, technically & length

MMus1: 55 min recital + oratorio audition package (5) + opera arias (2)

MMus2: 55 min recital +opera audition package (5) and oratorio arias (2)

Therefore you should aim to have a new piece prepared every lesson, ie) always starting a new piece, refining a nearly -new piece, and polishing/maintaining older pieces. Use time between semesters, reading weeks, and summers to increase your repertoire by choosing and preparing new works.

Practice Expectations

- Vocal practice is about *quality* not quantity. Do not push your instrument beyond a healthy capacity. **Do** try to sing everyday. Practising can take many alternate forms besides phonation; listening, memorising, translating, research, silent score -study, attending a concert, etc.
- Singing will take a variety of forms here at Western. Use choir and other ensembles as tools to learn new skills, but be aware of how much you are using your instrument, and in what ways your production differs in these forums.



Masterclass Expectations

- MC occurs weekly, schedule TBA.
- Attendance is **mandatory**, whether you're singing or not. BE PROMPT.
- MC selections **MUST** be memorised. If you are not memorised, you will still sing, but using music may affect your mark. Please prepare **1-2** selections/week, and expect to sing at least every third week (see schedule).
- Dress professionally (ie, jury- or audition-wear) whenever possible
- Be prepared to give feedback to your colleagues. Your feedback frequency and efficacy is factored heavily into your MC grade.
- **If you are sick or away, arrange to switch** with a colleague singing another week so you don't miss an opportunity to present pieces.
- Opera may conflict with our MC time; we will work around this.
- Western generally has an open-door policy for MC, so you can typically go to other studios' MCs, and you should take advantage of this opportunity!

Performance Opportunities

- Whether or not you are cast in UWOpera, there are other performing opportunities in which to play roles including London Musical Theatre, Theatre Western, King's College, Original Kids, etc.
- **2023-24 UWOPERA**: Cenerentola (November, already cast), Albert Herring (March), EMS Gala (February) ****Auditions for Opera are SEPTEMBER 11****
- Summer programmes and apprenticeships are necessary and incomparable learning opportunities in the months away from classes. Banff, Nuova, Halifax Summer Opera, SOLT, VOSI, COSA, St. Andrews, Contemporary Opera Lab, Avalon, Orford, Tafelmusik, Haliburton, VSO,

COAA are a few Canadian options.

- See me for more US/International options.
- Competitions are great ways to be heard by professionals and receive useful feedback (not to mention prize money and castings). **NATS** is an accessible, annual competition for all levels, and occurs this year @ Queens (or Online). Please apply (through me) - only \$35/class and feedback from 3 judges!
- Studio Recitals will occur on **NOVEMBER 30 @ 8pm in VKH** and **February TBA @ 8pm in Studio 242**. Invite your friends and family!
- Consider other performing opportunities here at school as well; choral solos, recordings, ensembles, small groups, vocal rep, masterclasses, vocal Fridays, etc. Investigate ways to present a partial or full recital on or off campus with a colleague.



Collaborative Pianists

- Time with your collaborative pianist is paramount. Use it wisely and come as prepared as possible to coachings and lessons. The advice of your professional coach is integral to your vocal education.
- Songs should be fully translated, prepared and practised before attending coachings or lessons.

Coursework

- Most coursework can be emailed to me on or before the due date at 10pm. I prefer to receive Rep Lists and Promo Packages in physical copies so we can review them - you need these printed for producers later in the year anyway - for all other reports, **email is fine**.
- **Repertoire Catalogue: Last MC in September**
You and I (and potential producers) need a complete repertoire list. Create a list of repertoire learned, on separate sheets; Art Song (x 4+ languages) MT (if applicable) and Opera/Oratorio for upper years.

You can create a table or grouping as you like, but ideally quadrants listed by language. Include songs that are a) fully learned, presentable, of appropriate difficulty, etc. This is a 'living doc' to be amended each year; a cumulative list of your work. Freshmen please include all repertoire learnt in the previous year and/or any repertoire at RCM Level 8+

You should also prepare a “wish -list” of rep for the current year.

- **Promotional Package: Last MC in October**
For most auditions you will require an organised CV, biography, repertoire list and headshot. Some of you will also need monologues, so this could be a time to find and begin working on one. Please bring me a sample package to review together.
- **Concert Review: Last MC in November**
Review any vocal concert you attend at the faculty - 2 pg min.
- **Book or Articles Report: Last MC in January**
Review a book (or approved article) regarding vocal pedagogy, acting, movement, health, biography, education, etc. Minimum 850 words.
- **Jury Notes or Program Notes: Last MC in March**
Prepare notes on each piece on your jury. Include: composer dates and details, historical significance, a poetic or preferably wd-4-wd translation, a “plot summary,” musical challenges and highlights, unique score markings, etc. These have proved extremely helpful when preparing for juries.
- **Performance -Major Recitals:** Do your best to attend your studio colleagues’ performance recitals - this year’s will include **Diane, Sarah, Iris Chelsie...** dates TBA
- **Voice Fridays** is a topics series held in TC 100 on Fridays at 1:30. Speakers present excellent additional supplements and there are often also performance opportunities - make every effort to attend!



EVALUATION

- <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>
- Studio course grade breakdown:
UG 1-2 and non -performance 3 -4
55% Lessons
10% Course Work

25% Jury
10% Masterclass + Class Recitals
UG 3-4 performance
60% Lessons
10% Course Work
20% Dec. Jury
10% Masterclass and Class Recitals
MMus 1 -2
80% Lessons
10% Course Work
10% Class Recitals

Important Dates

- September 8: Lessons commence
- September 11: SINGING-TO-KNOW YOU MC (see schedule below)
 - Opera auditions (sign up for 7pm or later or duck out of MC)
- September 29: National Reconciliation Day (No classes)
- October 30: Fall Reading Week (No MC or lessons)
 - NATS Virtual Recordings due; NATS Live registrations due
- November 30: RECITAL 1, 8pm VKH
- December 8: Last day of lessons (and classes)
- January 8: Lessons recommence
- February 5: Broadway Studio Recital, 8pm TBA
- February 19: Winter Reading WEEK

** Also stay apprised of Opera dates, Recital dates and other important events via the Faculty Facebook Page **

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Code of Student Conduct:
http://www.uwo.ca/police/resources/code_of_student_conduct.html
- DWFOM Handbook: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>
- Statement on Scholastic Offences:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

- Jury Requirements: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/juryRequirements/Voice%20jury%20requirements.pdf>
- Policy on Accommodation for Illness: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html
- Statement on Mental Health: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth>

i) **Course Prerequisites:** Previous Applied Music Prerequisite ie) 1920 for 2920, 2921 for 3921. Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol 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 (≥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. Academic Consideration provides students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate consideration, without compromising the academic integrity of the course or program, when they have been unable to complete some component of a course due to short-term extenuating circumstances. Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions (physical or mental) that may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities are directed to seek Academic Accommodation through Accessible Education ([Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)).

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), of the student's Home Faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness at the following website for further details regarding various requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:

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

Whenever possible, students who require academic consideration 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 / lessons, or equivalent in applied studio courses) 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 Thames Hall room 2170. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in Thames Hall 2170 or to click on the big green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

vii) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education 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 (other than statutory 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. The Diversity Calendar from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion provides information on multifaith, multicultural and diversity related holidays and observances and links to resources for more information. <https://www.edi.uwo.ca/resources/2816-2023-Diversity-Calendar-PDF.pdf>

ix) **Contingency Plan:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in person, should any university-declared emergency require 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 course will adapt accordingly. 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) **Evaluation Policy Exemption:** This course has received an exemption from the requirement in the Senate Policy on Evaluation of Undergraduate Academic Performance that stipulates "At least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade."

xii) **Compulsory First Year Exam Exemption:** The Dean's office has granted this course an exemption from the Senate policy that requires each first-year course (1000-1999) to administer a common, compulsory, final examination scheduled during the examination period worth not less than 30% of the final grade.

xiii) **Examinations & Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

xiv) **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.

xv) **Plagiarism Detection Software Usage:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under licence to the University for the detection of plagiarism, which

includes AI writing detection tools. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).