

**Western University, Don Wright Faculty of Music
Department of Music Performance Studies**

Applied Piano Instruction Course Outline, 2023-2024

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COURSE INFORMATION

Undergraduate: MU 2921

Graduate: MU9509a/9584b, 9585a/9786b, 9801a/9802b,
9803a/9804b, 9805a/9806b, 9807a/9808b

Course Description

My general aim as an applied teacher is to focus on the cultivation of the whole individual and complete musician - an individualized approach that takes into account each student's unique background, potential, and interests while building a solid technical and musical foundation through the detailed study and analysis of strategically selected solo and chamber/collaborative piano repertoire. Through continued careful advising and assessment, I seek to provide a fulfilling and compelling educational experience for each student - an experience that will provide the foundation for life-long learning and love for music, inquiry, and maturation into musicians of the highest possible quality. I also seek to cultivate and inspire altruistic action/thinking in my students as performer-ambassadors (or performer-entrepreneurs) and self-sufficient advocates for the performing arts.

Attendance

Students are required to attend all scheduled lessons unless they have a legitimate reason for canceling it. Requests for canceled lessons must be made no later than 24 hours preceding the lesson (except in cases of medical or family emergency). Students should take the initiative to schedule any make-up lessons, and unexcused absences are not eligible to be made up.

Performance Class

Students must attend a weekly studio class of 90 minutes, unless excused in advance by the instructor. Failure to attend could result in the lowering of the applied lesson grade. The instructor formulates the studio class schedule at the beginning of each academic year, and piano majors should expect to perform at least two times a semester.

Grading

Students are expected to be well prepared at each lesson and to demonstrate reasonable and consistent progress throughout the semester. The semester grade is determined by student effort, preparation, progress, studio class participation, and the quality of playing attained in the respective semester of study.

Undergraduate level courses:

Jury Mark 20%, Performance Class 10%, Studio Lessons 70% (35% for each term)

Graduate level courses:

Performance Class 20%, Studio Lessons 80% (40% for each term)

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%.

See Music Performance Studies Handbook link below for more information:

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

i) **Course Prerequisites:** Unless you have either the prerequisites for your applied 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.

ii) **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. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, 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.

iii) **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.

iv) **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

v) **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 green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

vi) **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

vii) **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>

viii) **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

ix) **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.

x) **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.”

xi) **Compulsory First Year Exam Exemption:** The Dean's office has granted 1920 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.

xii) **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.