

Contemporary Music Studio

3976Y/9507Y 2022-2023

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Class Times and Locations

See OWL site

Description

The Contemporary Music Studio introduces students to solo and chamber music from 1925 to the present through the preparation, coaching, and performance of selected repertoire in classroom and concert settings.

Course Prerequisites

This course is open to graduate students as well as 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students in Performance. Other students may be admitted by permission of the course instructors and department chair. Entrance to the course is through audition.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Be introduced to chamber music repertoire from 1925-the present through the preparation and performance of representative and significant works.
- Learn about stylistic characteristics of music by international composers of contemporary music.
- Develop intellectual awareness of performance practice, and technical ability to solve performance practice issues of contemporary repertoire.
- Gain collaborative and leadership skills as a musician.
- Develop advanced pitch and harmonic awareness.
- Develop skills to successfully perform rhythmic complexities that are a vital component of this repertoire. c

Course Structure

The primary focus of this course will be the study of chamber music repertoire written after 1925. This study will be effected primarily through the preparation and performance of assigned repertoire presented in two concerts. The repertoire will be coached during the scheduled class times. Any students not scheduled for a coaching will rehearse assigned repertoire during class time as determined by the schedule. It is expected that ensemble rehearsals will also take place outside of class time. Schedules for coachings and rehearsals will be provided on an ongoing basis.

Course Evaluation:

Preparation of Repertoire, Leadership, Initiative: 28%
Concert I, Performance: 25%
Concert II, Performance: 25%
Listening and research assignment 12%
Attendance 10%

Preparation, Leadership/Initiative: It is the responsibility of the students to organize and conduct rehearsals of the assigned repertoire in preparation for class coachings. Knowing the score in preparation for rehearsals is an evident requirement. Students will also share responsibility for promoting the concerts and will provide information with regard to their efforts in this area. Examples of promotion include: creating a Facebook page announcing the concert, creating and posting flyers two weeks before the concert, emailing/texting a list of friends at least one week in advance of the concert, etc.

Performances: Students will be assessed on the quality of their preparation and performance both in the classroom setting and in the public concerts.

Listening and Research Assignment: Due Monday Nov. 13th at 1:30 in RM. 227

CONCERT DATES

Concert I	Monday Dec. 4, 2023 7:30 pm vKH
Dress rehearsal	Monday Dec. 4, 2023 1:30-6:00 pm vKH
Concert II	Monday April 8, 2024 7:30 pm vKH
Dress	Monday April 8, 2024 1:30-6:00 pm vKH

GUEST ARTIST EVENT

Friday November 17, 2023 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM Location TBA
Masterclass with Joel Sachs, Juilliard Professor Emeritus
N.B. 2-3 select chamber ensembles from the class will be asked to take part in this event.

Online Resources

Canadian Music Centre: www.musiccentre.ca
Personal websites of composers
www.composers21.com

Selected Bibliography

Performing Twentieth Century Music (A Handbook for Conductors); Weisberg, Arthur; Yale University Press; 1993
Modern Music And After (Directions since 1945); Griffiths, Paul; Oxford University Press; 1995
Modernism and Music; Albright, Daniel; U of Chicago Press; 2004
Musica mathematica; traditions and innovations in contemporary music; Povilioniené, Rima; PL Academic Research, 2016
The Rest is Noise; Listening to the Twentieth Century; Alex Ross, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, NY, 2017
Ear Training For Twentieth Century Music; Friedman, Michael L; Yale University Press; 1990
Sudden Music; Rothenberg, David; The University of Georgia Press; 2002

The New Music; Brindle, Reginald Smith; Oxford University Press; 1987
The Boulez-Cage Correspondence; ed. Nattiez,
Orientations: Pierre Boulez, ed. Nattiez; Faber and Faber, London; 1986
Experimental Music: Cage and Beyond; Nyman, Michael; Schirmer Books; 1974
Silence: lectures and writings; Cage, John; M.I.T. Press; 1966
Mind Models; Reynolds, Roger; Praeger Press; 1975
American Pioneers: Ives to Cage and Beyond; Rich, Alan; Phaidon Press; 1995
Improvisation its nature and practice in music; Bailey, Derek; Moorland Publishing; 1980
Treatise Handbook; Cardew, Cornelius; Edition Peters; 1971

Notes for Undergraduate Students Enrolled in the Course

i) Prerequisites: This course is open to graduate Students as well as 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students in Performance. Other students may be admitted by permission of the department chair. Entrance to the course is through audition.

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

iii) Academic Consideration for Student Absence and 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. 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:

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 due to medical illness or compassionate grounds. 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, 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) **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.

xi) **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.

Notes for Graduate Students Enrolled in the Course

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment in this course is restricted to graduate students in Performance as well as any student that has obtained special permission from the course instructor as well as the Graduate Chair (or equivalent) from the student’s home program.

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

Statement on Academic Offences

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

Statement on Health and Wellness

Students who are in emotional or mental distress should refer to [Health and Wellness](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. <https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html>

Statement on Medical Accommodation

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

The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to fulfill academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by illness or injury. To ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's course grade shall be granted only in cases where there is documentation indicating that the student could not reasonably be expected to meet the academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the office of the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), not to the course instructor."

Accessible Education Western

Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate program. Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with Accessible Education Western (AEW), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AEW and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.

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