Course Description:

Study of the practice of tonal counterpoint in Baroque style. Development of writing skills through counterpoint in the style of J. S. Bach. Composition of pieces such as choral preludes, binary dances, inventions, and fugal expositions.

Course Information:

Times and Rooms:  Monday 10:30AM-12:30PM  TC201
                  Wednesday 10:30AM-11:30AM  TC201

Instructor: Dr. Troy Ducharme
Office: TC231
E-mail: tducharm@uwo.ca
Phone: (519)661-2111 x.87716

Office Hours: Thursdays 12:30-1:30PM and by appointment.

Texts and Materials:

1. **Scores.** Most of the scores used in class are in the public domain, and available through IMSLP. Where copies are not circulated in class, you may be required to retrieve them from the web. Links will be provided on OWL in such cases. That being said, the scores are available in relatively inexpensive editions by Dover that the student may find handy:


2. **Materials.** Manuscript paper, pencils, and erasers should be brought to every class. All assignments are to be done by hand.

3. **Textbooks.** A number of quality textbooks on the subject exist and the student may wish to own any one of these for reference. None of these are required for the course, however, and may be found on reserve in the music library:

Evaluation:

Participation: 10%
Weekly Assignments: 40%
Skills Quizzes: 5%
Final Exam: 20%
Final Project: 25%

Participation: Several dates on the schedule have been set aside for the sharing of student work in progress. Each student will volunteer to present work for commentary and criticism in class during one of these dates. This requirement is in addition to the usual expectations of attendance and meaningful contribution to class discussions.

Weekly Assignments: Each assignment will be made up of 3 parts: Analysis, Exercise, and Composition. Completion of the assignments and careful attention to comments on submitted work are the keys to successful progression through the course.

Skills Quizzes: During classes in the second half of the course, there will be a series of short (10-20 minute) counterpoint exercises intended to prepare the student to write counterpoint under time-limited circumstances and without recourse to a piano. Similar kinds of exercises will be found on the final exam.

Final Exam: There will be a 3-hour exam during the December exam period. Students are advised not to make any holiday travel plans until the date of the final examination is set by the Registrar's Office.

Final Project: Each student will compose a two-voice invention, in the style of Bach’s inventions, in consultation with the instructor.

**A complete schedule, including dates for quizzes and assignment submissions, is attached**
Notes:

1. **The prerequisite for this course is MUS2650.** 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.

2. 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 – here the final project and final exam - 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 his/her academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean’s office. (In Music, this means the Associate Dean, Undergraduate).
   a. Missed quizzes will not be ‘made up’. In the case of serious conflicts, illness, and the like, accommodation consisting of transferring the weight of the quiz to the final exam may be offered at the instructor’s discretion.
   b. See also ‘Procedures for Assignments’.

3. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the dates specified on the attached schedule, or as provided when the assignment is circulated. Assignments handed in after class will receive an immediate penalty of 10% and an additional 10% per day thereafter. Assignments that are more than 5 days late will not be accepted.
   a. Extensions may be requested prior to the original due date, but may not exceed 5 days beyond the original due date.
   b. The value of missed assignments (ie, not handed in within 5 days) - may be added to the value of the final exam, but only if there are documented medical or compassionate grounds. See the Policy for Accommodation for Medical Illness at: www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

4. Assignments are to be completed independently. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offense. 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/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

5. Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Important Dates:**

10 October  
Thanksgiving Holiday

27-28 October  
Fall Study Break

5 November  
Last day to drop a first-term half course without academic penalty

7 December  
Classes End

8-9 December  
Study Days

10-21 December  
Mid-year examination period
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Work Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 M 12 Sept</td>
<td>Introduction “Qualities of counterpoint and the role of harmony.” Harmonic Analysis, prolongation, and identification of embellishments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 M 19 Sept</td>
<td><strong>Student Work I</strong>; Melody Writing I: Motive and Shape.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 W 21 Sept</td>
<td>Melody Writing II: Implied Harmony.</td>
<td>ASN 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 M 26 Sept</td>
<td><strong>Student Work II</strong>; Take up Asn 1. Principles and examples of Two-Voice Counterpoint.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 W 28 Sept</td>
<td>More two-voice counterpoint.</td>
<td>ASN 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 M 3 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Student work III</strong>; Take up Asn 2; Small forms and harmonic structure.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 W 5 Oct</td>
<td>Two-voice imitation.</td>
<td>ASN 3</td>
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**Thanksgiving Holiday Monday 10 October**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Work Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 W 12 Oct</td>
<td>Take up Asn 3. Invertible Counterpoint at the Octave. ‘Minvention’ example.</td>
<td>ASN 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Skills Quiz 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 M 17 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Student Work IV</strong>. Take up Asn 4. Two-Voice sequences in imitative counterpoint.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 W 19 Oct</td>
<td>Invention Study I.</td>
<td>ASN 5</td>
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<td>12 M 24 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Student work V</strong>; Take up Asn 5. Invention Study I (cont’d).</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 W 26 Oct</td>
<td>Invention Study II</td>
<td>ASN 6</td>
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<td><strong>Skills Quiz 2</strong></td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Activities</td>
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| 31 Oct | M 31 Oct | **Student work VI;** Take-up ASN 6.  
Invention Study II (Cont’d)                                                 |
| 2 Nov  | W 2 Nov | Three-Voice Counterpoint.  
Trio Sonata (with figured bass review)                                      |
| 7 Nov  | M 7 Nov | **Student work VII;** Take up ASN 7.  
Trio Sonata (cont’d).                                                         |
| 9 Nov  | W 9 Nov | Invention Study III                                                         |
| 14 Nov | M 14 Nov | **Student work VIII;** Take up ASN 8.  
Invention Study III (cont’d)                                                  |
| 16 Nov | W 16 Nov | Repertoire Study.                                                           |
| 21 Nov | M 21 Nov | **Student Work IX;** Take up ASN 9.  
Repertoire Study.                                                              |
| 23 Nov | M 28 Nov | Repertoire Study.                                                            |
| 30 Nov | W 23 Nov | NO CLASS. Meetings on Final Projects.                                        |
| 5 Dec  | M 5 Dec | TBA.                                                                        |
| 7 Dec  | W 7 Dec | Final Exam Review                                                           |