Music 3958 – Piano Literature
Fall 2017/Winter 2018

Course Instructor: Dr. Brett Kingsbury
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Phone – 416.570.5269

Class Times: Wednesdays: 12:30 – 1:30
Thursdays: 1:30 – 3:30

Location: MB-321

Office Hours: Thursdays 3:30 – 4:30 in MB 459 or by appointment

Course Description

This course is designed as a survey of music performed, currently or historically, on the piano. The chief focus of the survey will be on those works central to the student’s studio instruction as performers although a few works and traditions outside of that core may be considered to provide historical and cultural perspective.

The goal of the course is to provide students with

1) An immediate fund of core piano works with which they are familiar enough to recognize and identify instantly.
2) Knowledge of the development of the piano as a mechanical instrument and understanding of the impact of this development on works written for it.
3) Awareness of broader trends in style, genre, and social function of music written for piano. Awareness of these trends will help to contextualize works that aren’t immediately familiar.

4) The skills to research stylistic, formal, and historical features of works from across the history of piano literature; and the ability to speak and write about this research in a clear and informed manner.

5) An awareness of the many ways in which academic issues of style, historical context, genre, and formal analysis relate to practical concerns of performance.

Course Readings and Listening Lists:

Most weeks a reading and repertoire list relevant to the following week’s lecture will be provided. They will be posted on the OWL course website. It will be expected that students familiarize themselves before class with both the readings and the listening examples to be discussed.

The core reference texts for this course will include:


Some supplementary and more general texts that you may also be interested in consulting are:


The core texts, as well as any other works required for reading, will be placed on course reserve in the Faculty of Music library. Any scores for pieces to be discussed will either be placed on course reserve, or you will be directed to some other means of accessing the material. To facilitate access, some scores may also be linked to via imslp.org or another online site.
Course Evaluation:

In order to achieve the goals listed above, a number of methods of evaluation will be employed.

1) **Listening Tests (15%)**:  
There will be 4 short listening tests given throughout the course (two per term). These tests will be based on repertoire lists given to the students before each class and with which they will be expected to be familiar. Test will involve playing excerpts from the repertoire list after which students will be required to identify composers, titles of works, relevant catalogue numbers, key signatures, and/or stylistic features that enable the listener to identify those works.

2) **Oral presentations (two, one per term) (5% each)**:  
In consultation with the instructor, each student will be required to present a short oral presentation focused on a single work for piano. The presentation will outline pertinent stylistic features, formal analysis, historical context, and performance issues as appropriate. Details of these presentation will be outlined further in writing and in discussion with the instructor.

3) **Written Papers (two, one per term) (10% each)**:  
Written papers on the piece treated in the oral presentation will be submitted by students at the close of each term. The papers will provide detailed research information of the sources used to develop the ideas in the presentation. The written papers may also include additional topics brought to light during in-class discussion following the oral presentations. Specific requirements will be provided by the instructor in writing as the course progresses.

4) **Mid-course Exam (15%)**:  
The Mid-course exam will take place at the end of term one. It will consist of a listening component based on the repertoire lists developed over the course of the term as well as some short answer and multiple choice questions based on lecture material covered in class. Specific details of format will be discussed in class.

5) **Final Exam (30%)**:  
The final exam will be in a similar format to the midterm exam, with both a listening and a written component. It will be more extensive with questions dealing with material from throughout the course but focused more on material from the second term. Specific details of format will be discussed in class.

6) **Participation and attendance (10%)**:  
Attendance at all classes is expected. For information on Western’s policy for the accommodation of medical illness please visit the following site:  
http://www.health.uwo.ca/services/students/policies.html
Participation will be evaluated based on the student’s engagement in class discussions, attentiveness during presentations, familiarity with assigned readings and through general demonstration of a willingness to be open to the course’s subject matter and to learn.

Course Calendar
The course will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the fall and winter terms from Sept. 7 to Dec. 9, 2017, and from Jan. 6 to April 6, 2018. A schedule of class dates and listening tests is given below. Dates for oral presentations and written work will be determined in consultation with the instructor as class proceeds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 7 – Introductory class</td>
<td>Jan 10/11</td>
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<td>Sept 13/14</td>
<td>Jan 17/18</td>
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<td>Sept 20/21</td>
<td>Jan 24/25</td>
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<td>Sept 27/28</td>
<td>Jan 31/Feb 1 – Third listening test</td>
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<td>Oct 4/5 – First listening test</td>
<td>Feb 7/8</td>
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<td>Oct. 11/12 – Reading break</td>
<td>Feb 14/15</td>
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<td>Oct 18/19</td>
<td>Feb 21/22 – Reading break</td>
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<td>Oct 25/26</td>
<td>Feb 28/Mar 1</td>
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<td>Nov 1/2</td>
<td>Mar 7/8 – Fourth listening test</td>
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<td>Nov 8/9 – Second listening test</td>
<td>Mar 14/15</td>
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<td>Nov 15/16</td>
<td>Mar 21/22</td>
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<td>Nov 29/30</td>
<td>Apr 4/5</td>
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<td>Dec 6/7</td>
<td>Apr 11</td>
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<td>TBD – Mid-year evaluation</td>
<td>TBD – Final Examination</td>
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<td>Holiday Break</td>
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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, at the following website: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf).