The University of Western Ontario
Department of Music Performance Studies

Course Outline

Music 1905, 2905, 3905, 4905, 9528 (Early Music Ensemble)

2017-2018

Course Instructors

Joseph Lanza - director MB 216
Borys Medickey - consultant, historic keyboards and chamber music
Alexander Chen - teaching assistant (not enrolled in an EMS course)

Course Meetings

Mondays & Wednesdays - 3:30-5:30, MB 210

New: this year, chamber music will be on Mondays and the large ensemble (bande) will meet on Wednesdays. However, there will be some exceptions - many dress rehearsals and concerts are on Mondays. See schedule on page 2.

Course Description

A study of the styles of music composed before c1800 through coaching sessions, rehearsal, and performance. Instrumentalists will make use of copies of period instruments. We explore approaches to performance which are reasonably close to those of the time a composition was initially performed. Students taking the course for ensemble credit should expect to contribute about four hours (on average) of performance/rehearsal time each week. Students taking it as a half course credit will contribute two hours per week over both terms (or, very exceptionally, four hours per week over a single term). Students registering in early music as two half-course credits will be expected to complete four hours per week of performance/rehearsal time in both first and second terms.

Much of the music we will consider in the course does not of itself yield comprehensive information about approaches to performance (especially for the inexperienced), neither has it acquired reasonably 'fixed' performing traditions, such as those that one finds in much of the conventional world of modern music making. Part of our rehearsal time will sometimes seem more 'exploratory' than 'goal-driven'. Students will be encouraged to share in the explorations we will make, and to engage their intellectual capacities every bit as much as their musical talents. In many cases we will find ourselves making some decisions about performance without having all
the pieces of information we would like to possess.

**Evaluation**

Students will be assessed on their preparation for, and contributions to coaching sessions, rehearsals, and performances. Coaching sessions and rehearsals are *not* intended to provide time for practice. Students are expected to gain mastery over assigned repertoire on their own time.

Unexcused absences from coaching sessions, rehearsals, or performances will be reflected in course grades.

**Miscellaneous**

Everyone is responsible to bring stands to all rehearsals. Punctuality for rehearsals is important: tuning for string instruments in particular is a critical issue in historical performance. Please arrive early enough to be ready to play, with your instrument ready for tuning at the beginning of rehearsal. Please use a binder for music; no loose pages. Concert dress is all black, unless otherwise decided by consensus.

**The use of EMS rooms; keys** - The TA has keys to the EMS rooms. There will be a sign out sheet for EMS keys at the music library. First priority will be practice access for keyboard students, then other EMS students, *for practicing of period instruments only*. Sharing of keys with non EMS students or use of the space for modern instrument practicing without special permission from myself or the TA will result in loss of key privileges.

**Early Music Studio (EMS) Concert Dates and Other Important Events**

(all concerts at von Kuster hall, unless otherwise noted.)

*Tafelmusik’s seventh annual residency* - Part 1 All students required for these sessions
Monday, October 2, 3:30 to 5:30 rehearsal/workshop with Tafelmusik violinist Patricia Ahern
Monday, October 16, 3:30 to 5:30 rehearsal/workshop with Tafelmusik violinist Patricia Ahern

**Programme I** - Special Guest Leader Patricia Ahern will lead these performances:
**Tuesday, Oct 17, 12:30 pm**, The EMS at Weldon Library: *Western Performs!*
Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 8:00 pm, von Kuster hall

**Programme II** - **Wednesday, December 6, 8:00 p.m. von Kuster hall**

**Programme III** - *This programme is still TBC*  Monday, February 5, 2018 8:00 p.m. von Kuster hall

**Programme IV** - **Friday, Feb 9, 2018, 12:30 pm, von Kuster hall:** Western's Fridays at 12:30 "Dr. Sophie Roland and Joseph Lanza, along with selected students of the Early Music Studio, present a concert of Italian baroque music"

*Tafelmusik’s seventh annual residency* - Part 2 All students required for these sessions
Friday March 2nd - Monday March 5th.
Tafelmusik violinist Patricia Ahern, other Tafelmusik guests TBA
Detailed rehearsal schedule TBC.  *Save the Dates!*
Programme V - Monday, March 5, 2018, 8:00 pm, von Kuster hall

Programme VI - Monday, March 26, 2018, 8:00 pm, von Kuster hall