

Western University Canada
Don Wright Faculty of Music
Department of Music Research and Composition
T. Ducharme. Winter 2016.

Music 9556b. Studies in Contemporary Repertoire.

Thursdays 9:30-12:30AM, TC340
Dr. Troy Ducharme, TC231
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Office Hours Fridays 10:30-12:30

Studies in compositional techniques of the late 20th and early 21st century. Students will undertake an analytical and aesthetic survey of significant compositions written within the last 25 years. These works will be discussed in the context of other significant and appropriate works of the 20th century and relative to the larger output of each represented composer. Vocal and instrumental music, with and without electronics, will be covered, and the composers represented will be diverse in terms of age, gender, nationality, and aesthetic orientation.

Students will develop a working knowledge and vocabulary of compositional techniques, goals and effects in the contemporary classical repertoire that they can bring into their creative and/or interpretative activities. They will demonstrate their achievement by writing a paper (analytical, critical, or explanatory) on a relevant work or topic.

Course Materials:

Scores, recordings, and readings will be left on reserve in the library and/or found online.

Evaluation.

Weekly Seminar Preparation and Participation: 30%

Final Project Preliminary Work: 10%

Final Presentation: 20%

Final Project: 40%

Weekly Seminar Preparation and Participation.

Students are required to study all of the assigned materials in advance of class and arrive with the materials in hand and prepared to participate in and contribute to an in-depth discussion. Short written assignments, on a nearly weekly basis, will also form a portion of this grade.

Students must attend 11 of the 12 seminar meetings to pass the course.

Final Project.

Students will choose a piece composed within the last 25-30 years and write a paper (analytical, critical, or explanatory). This paper will be developed in stages, beginning early in the term and following instructions provided in a separate handout.

Notes:

1. 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_grad.pdf.

2. As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help students achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing a graduate degree. Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone in whom they feel comfortable confiding, such as a faculty supervisor, a program advisor, or the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies). Campus mental health resources may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html.

Preliminary Schedule.

WEEK 1, 7 JANUARY. INTRODUCTION.

WEEK 2, 14 JANUARY. SOLO VOICE - CHAMBER
David Myska* (b.1955), *Four Shakespeare Songs* [2004/2012]
Unsub Chin (b.1961), *Akrostichon- Wortspiel* [1991]

WEEK 3, 21 JANUARY. SOLO VOICE - ORCHESTRA
Henri Dutilleux (1916-2013), *Correspondances* [2003]
Peter Lieberon (1946-2011), *Neruda Songs* [2005]

WEEK 4, 28 JANUARY. CHORAL MUSIC
Arvo Pärt (b.1935), *Adam's Lament* [2009]
Caroline Shaw (b.1982), *Partita* [2009-2012]

WEEKS 5 AND 6, 4 AND 11 FEBRUARY: ORATORIO
Sofia Gubaidulina (b.1931), *Strasti po Joannu* [2000]
Oswaldo Golijov (b.1960), *Pasio segun San Marcos* [2000]
Wolfgang Rihm (b.1952), *Deus Passus* [2000]
Tan Dun (b.1957), *Water Passion* [2000]

*****Reading Week*****

WEEK 7, 25 FEBRUARY: SOLO MUSIC
David Lang (b.1957), *Press-Release* [1992]
Luciano Berio (1925-2003), *Sequenza XIV* for cello [2002]

WEEK 8, 3 MARCH: CHAMBER MUSIC
Helmut Lachenmann (b.1935), *String Quartet no.3 "Grido"* [2000-2001]
Steve Reich (b.1936), *Double Sextet* [2007]

WEEK 9, 10 MARCH: SOLO AND CHAMBER MUSIC WITH ELECTRONICS AND/OR MULTIMEDIA
Omar Daniel*(b.1960), *The Flaying of Marsyas* [2000]
TBA

WEEK 10, 17 MARCH: ORCHESTRA I: SYMPHONIES AND TONE POEMS
Witold Lutoslawski (1913-1994), *Symphony no.4* [1992]
York Höller (b.1944), *Sphären* [2001-2006]

WEEK 11, 24 MARCH: ORCHESTRA II: CONCERTOS
Peter Paul Koprowski* (b.1947), *Viola Concerto* [1995]
Paul Frehner* (b.1970), *Berliner Konzert* [2009]

WEEK 12, 31 MARCH: MINI-SYMPOSIUM