

**NEW COURSE --- OPEN TO ALL MUSIC STUDENTS
WINTER 2016**

9586b Policy and Curriculum in the Arts
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Schmidt - Patrick.schmidt@uwo.ca
Talbot College Rm. TC 307 / Thursday 5:30 to 8:10

Course description

This course examines the relationship between curricular and policy practices within various arenas of within the arts and how they impact the professional lives of musicians and arts educators in general. Through the study of traditional and contemporary models students will gain an understanding of how best to understand and construct policy thinking and how it can directly impact arts learning, program development, and innovative enterprises developed by artists and educators.

The course also addresses the manner in which policy thinking and action have an impact on everyday education in the arts—from schools to arts organizations to Non-Governmental Organizations. The conceptual and hands on approach to policy will equip students with the tools necessary to address the demands imposed by funding needs and sources, as well as cultural and educational politics. As a result of experience with this course—designed to be dynamic, hands on, collaborative, and conceptually challenging—students will be able to better evaluate their own professional engagements with music, as well as image curricular and policy practices that can be transformative and empowering.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify strategies for planning and program development in the arts.
- Recognize the main trends and models of curriculum development and how they may be applied to the development of successful and challenging music and arts programs.
- Classify policy-driven issues regarding schooling and they impact curriculum when it is situated in the community, the school and the self.
- Evaluate how cultural and educational policy is developed and can be critiqued, as well as the ways in which policy impacts the professional lives of musicians and arts educators;
- Explain how current research-generated information can help in the development of effective and meaningful curriculum and policy discourse.
- Define the ways in which critical thinking must be a guiding element in the implementation of curricula and policy in the arts field.