UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC  
COMPOSITION 4629  

Fall-Winter 2020-2021

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Paul Frehner  
Office: TC-339 Tel: (519) 661-2111 extension 85335  
Email: pfrehner@uwo.ca  
Office hours: Zoom - by appointment.

MEETINGS
Individual Private Lessons: Time TBA, face-to-face in TC 339 or online, via Zoom
Group Meeting Times: Mondays 7-10 pm (occasionally), f2f in MB 140 or online, via Zoom

This course will primarily consist of weekly private studio lessons held, alternately, in person in TC 339, and online via Zoom. Due to the university’s COVID-19 protocols in-person private lessons will be limited to a duration of 45 minutes. Masks are mandatory for these lessons. Online lessons may be slightly longer, lasting up to 50 minutes.

The entire class will meet during the official group meeting time only occasionally during the year. These meetings may consist of one or more of the following: lectures by the instructor, analysis and discussion of repertoire, student presentations, discussions of student in-progress compositions, guest lectures and/or workshops. You must keep the allotted lecture time free of conflicts in order to attend these occasional sessions.

Please note:
   In weeks in which there are group meetings it is possible that individual private lessons will not take place.

   There will not be any online asynchronous audio/video content provided by the instructor.

DESCRIPTION AND ACTIVITIES
A continuation of 3629. Works in medium-sized forms for solo instruments and chamber ensembles. Analysis with an emphasis on contemporary literature.

As mentioned above, 4629 consists almost entirely of one-on-one lessons. These consultations will focus on the following: the participants’ in-progress and completed compositions; any related in-progress and completed assignments and exercises; and discussions and analyses of selected contemporary music repertory. Students will complete at least two compositions based on parameters as defined by the instructor. Students are expected to actively engage in refining the focus and methodology of their compositional approach through the creative process. Finally, each student will give a 45-minute oral analytical presentation on a piece from the contemporary repertoire.

Students may be called upon to participate in readings of their own works and the works of their colleagues.
Learning Outcomes:

Students will continue to develop their fluency and skills related to the art of music composition

Through the analysis of pertinent repertoire students will gain an understanding of certain composers’ compositional methodologies as well as a historical context for their own work.

Through composing for specific instrumental forces students will deepen their knowledge of instrumentation and contemporary instrumental techniques

Through experiential opportunities students will gain valuable insight into the collaborative process of working a new composition towards a premiere performance (COVID-19 situation permitting).

COURSEWORK

Composition Projects and Deadlines

Composition 1: For Composition 1 students will compose for either:

Option 1
A solo work for 1 member of Ensemble Made-in-Canada, who will be in residence at the Faculty of Music from February 22 - March 4, 2021.

Instrumentation: either violin, viola, cello or piano
Duration: 4-5 minutes
Deadline for completed score: October 16, 2020

Workshop, rehearsals and concert during Ensemble Made-in-Canada’s 2021 residency:
   Potential Fall Workshop: date TBA
   Group rehearsal (all composers): March 1, 6-8 pm, MB242
   Dress rehearsal (all composers): March 2, 12:30-2:30 pm
   Concert: March 4, 12:30, Studio 242 or vKH

or

Option 2
A duet for harp and percussion for visiting artists Sanya Eng (harp) and Ryan Scott (percussion)
(percussion list TBA)

Duration: 4-6 minutes
Writing for harp workshop: Sept 21, 7:00 pm – online, Zoom
Writing for percussion workshop: Sept 28, 7:00 pm – online, Zoom
Deadline for completed score and parts: October 13, 2020
Reading of student compositions: March 5, 2021, 1:30-3:30
   In PDT (COVID-19 permitting), otherwise online, Zoom

Composition 2: Annual Student Chamber Groups/Composers Collaborative*
Student composers will be assigned to a student chamber ensemble
for which they will compose a new work
Instrumentation: TBA
Duration: 7 minutes

Deadlines:
December 7, 2020: draft of at least 4 minutes of competed music
Week of January 11, 2021: a draft of at least 5.5 minutes of
completed music (due during individual lessons)
February 11, 2021: Final deadline for full score and parts

*All students in 4629 are expected to participate in the Annual Chamber Groups-Composer Collaborative. This is an interdepartmental collaborative event between MPS and MRC that has been in place for over 17 years. Chamber groups are not finalized until near the end of September. Composer assignments are prioritized by course number (high to low) and grades and other meritorious factors. Decisions are made by a committee of MPS and MRC faculty organizers. A separate document with pertinent details and important dates will be distributed in late September/early October.

Please note that due to the ongoing and evolving COVID-19 situation this collaborative will result in a recording session of sorts on March 31, instead of a concert, which was the norm in the past. Also, if the university is forced to move to a fully online model in the winter term it is likely that the recording session will not take place.

Analytical Presentation

Each student will give one 45-minute analytical presentation on a large-form work by a contemporary composer. These will take place during the group meeting times on March 22, 29 and April 5 2021. Further details and an exact schedule for each student’s presentation will be provided at a later date.

Other Work

Other work, including short compositions, arrangements, exercises, analytical assignments, readings and listenings will be assigned from time to time either on an individual basis or to the entire class.
EVALUATION

Composition 1: 23%*
Composition 2: 32%*
Analytical Presentation: 20%
Other Work: 12%*
Attendance, Preparation and Participation: 13%**

*The evaluation of compositional work will take into account:
  - musicality
  - originality and creative thinking
  - clarity of compositional methodology and approach
  - craft, instrumentation and orchestration
  - score preparation

**Attendance and engaged participation are mandatory for this course. Students must attend a minimum of 80% of private lessons and group meetings to pass the course. If a private lesson must be missed it may be rescheduled provided the student gives the instructor at least 24 hours of notice.

There are no examinations in this course.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook, Scores and Recordings
There is no textbook for this course. Students will be asked as needed to bring score and audio materials for discussion. Reading and listening materials are usually available in the Music Library or through the library’s online services, through Interlibrary Loans, or through other online resources. Please note that COVID-19 restrictions may affect the library’s services.

Notation
Students may notate their work by hand or with a professional notation program. Regardless, a high (professional) standard of musical notation is expected. Due to the COVID-19 situation, which necessitates social distancing protocols, students are required to prepare their materials ahead of time (scan scores and sketches, convert files to PDFs, etc…) so that the instructor can view their music and sketches on his own computer during lessons.

Relevant Reference Books:

NOTES ON COURSE POLICY

Formatting & Submission of Scores
When formatting scores and parts students should follow, as close as possible, the MOLA Guidelines for Music Preparation.

Composition 1: Submit to the instructor both bound hard copies and PDFs of all performing materials.

Composition 2: There will be separate instructions on submitting scores and parts for this piece.

COVID-19 and Performances of Student Compositions
A resurgence of COVID-19 may adversely affect the planned performances of student compositions. Should this occur, the instructor will not be able to arrange other live performances of student compositional work.

IMPORTANT NOTES ON UNIVERSITY POLICY:

i) Course Prerequisites: Music 3629 with 70%.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll 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.

ii) Grading scale: A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.
iii) **Academic Consideration for Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. **Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus.** Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. **Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.**

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student’s Home Faculty.

For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

iv) **Academic Consideration for Missing Work:** In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean’s office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assessments will receive a grade of zero.

Addendum to note iv: In this course, if an accommodated composition receives a deadline extension for grading purposes, as per the terms of this policy, then the student acknowledges that the opportunity to have the composition performed may be forfeited.

v) **Academic Offences:** Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. 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_undergrad.pdf

vi) Mental Health & Wellness: Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (https://www.uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the big green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.

vii) Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

viii) Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo

ix) Contingency Plan: In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable or at the designated times for private lessons) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

x) Online Etiquette: Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:
• Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
• “Arrive” to class on time
• Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
• To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
• Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
• Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:
• If you wish to speak, select the blue “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question.
• Kindly remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking.
• Self-identify when speaking.
• Kindly remember to select the “raise hand” function again to lower your hand, mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise).

General considerations of “netiquette”:
• Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
• Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
• Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offenses, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

iv) **Electronic Devices in Classrooms:** The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

---

**Important Dates 2020-2021 (Faculty of Music)**

Sept 9 – undergraduate classes begin
Oct 12 – Thanksgiving Day Holiday
*October 20 – Potential Student Composer Concert, TBD*
Nov 2 to Nov 8 – Fall Reading Week
Nov 30 – last day to drop a full course without academic penalty
Dec 9 – last day of undergraduate classes
Dec 10 – Study Day
Dec 11 to Dec 22 – Examination period – No exam for 4629
January 4 – undergraduate classes begin
February 13-21 – Spring Reading Week
April 2 – Good Friday
April 12 – undergraduate classes end
April 13 – Study Days
April 14 – Final Exam Period
**4629 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, FALL 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 14</td>
<td>7:00-10:00 pm, 1st class, all students, face-to-face, MB 140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 21</td>
<td>7:00-8:30 approx. – writing for harp workshop with Sanya Eng, all students, online, Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of September 21</td>
<td>Private lessons begin, Times TBD, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 28</td>
<td>7:00-8:30 approx. – writing for percussion workshop with Ryan Scott, all students, online, Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of September 28</td>
<td>Private lessons, at established times, face-to-face, TC 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of October 5</td>
<td>Private lessons, at established times, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday (any private lessons scheduled on this day will be rescheduled online at a later date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of October 12</td>
<td>Private lessons, face-to-face, TC 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of October 19</td>
<td>Private lessons, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of October 29</td>
<td>Private lessons, face-to-face, TC 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Nov 2</td>
<td>Fall Reading Week – No Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Nov 9</td>
<td>Private lessons, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Nov 16</td>
<td>Private lessons, face-to-face, TC 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Nov 23</td>
<td>Private lessons, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Nov 23</td>
<td>Private lessons, face-to-face, TC 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Dec 7</td>
<td>Private lessons, online - Zoom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above schedule for the Fall semester establishes a repeating pattern in which we meet face-to-face one week, and online via Zoom, the following week. This schedule may be revised as the semester progresses. If the university is forced to move to a fully online model all private lessons and group classes will take place synchronously at the determined times.

A separate schedule will be provided for the Winter semester in January.