

**MUS3629 Composition II**  
**T. Ducharme (Rev. Jan 2022)**

**I. Course Description:**

*Works in the larger forms for vocal and/or instrumental ensembles. Analysis with an emphasis on twentieth-century literature.*

Students will:

- Develop their craft through completion of two large-scale compositions, completed in stages, in consultation with the instructor.
  - Consultation will require submission of work-in-progress at intervals throughout the year (as specified in a separate document). One-on-one consultations, in person or virtual depending on schedule, as well as written feedback will comprise the bulk of the instruction in the course;
- Develop repertoire knowledge and an understanding of compositional techniques and their effects through detailed listening to and analysis of works as assigned by the instructor. The required repertoire will include:
  - works assigned for individual study based on the goals, techniques, and format of the student's unique project;
  - works assigned to the entire class that will be discussed using the forums tool on OWL.

**II. Course Information:**

**Times and Rooms:**

Monday 1:30PM – 2:30PM TC202

Wednesday 1:30PM – 2:30PM TC202

*Please note that these class times will not always be used for group meetings: See the attached schedule for times where class attendance is required.*

*Individual lessons in TC231 (or by Zoom) will replace most class meetings.*

Instructor: Dr. Troy Ducharme Office: TC231  
E-mail: [tducharm@uwo.ca](mailto:tducharm@uwo.ca) Phone: (519)661-2111 x.87716  
*Office Hours: Contact the instructor by e-mail to book office hour times beyond the scheduled lessons.*

**The prerequisite for this course is Music 2629 with a mark of 70% ("B").** Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol 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.

## **Iib. Important Dates, including required class meetings**

*This is based on the information available at the beginning of term  
and is subject to change with appropriate notice. Please note the listed rooms and times.*

### **Term 1.**

Wed 8 Sept, 1:30pm–3:20pm, TC202. **Class meeting** for introductions and to review course requirements.

*Tues 26 Oct, vonKuster Hall. Fall Student Composers Concert. Rehearsals 5:00pm–7:30pm; Concert 8:00pm–10:30pm. More information to follow.*

Mon 29 Nov, 12:30pm–1:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings.

Wed 1 Dec, 12:30pm–2:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings.

Mon 6 Dec, 12:30pm–1:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings.

Wed 8 Dec, 12:30pm–2:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings.

### **Term 2\*.**

Mon 10 Jan, 1:30pm–3:20pm, TC202. **Class meeting** to review second-term plans and schedules, discuss progress.

~~Wed 26 Jan, 1:30–3:30, MB242. Readings of student works with Ensemble Made in Canada. To be rescheduled~~

Sat 19 Mar, 8:30am–2:00pm, von Kuster Hall. Chamber Music Collaboration Dress Rehearsal #1.

Sat 26 Mar, 8:30am–2:00pm, von Kuster Hall. Chamber Music Collaboration Dress Rehearsal #2.

Mon 28 Mar, 1:30pm–2:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings. **[NEW DATE]**

Wed 30 Mar, 1:30pm–3:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings. **[NEW DATE]**

Wed 30 Mar, 5:30pm–10:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Student Composer Concert/Recording Session.

Mon 4 Apr, 1:30pm–2:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings. **[NEW DATE]**

Wed 6 Apr, 1:30pm–3:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings. **[NEW DATE]**

### III. Required Course Materials:

1. **There is no required textbook.**
2. **Other materials** – primarily scores and recordings – will be accessed through the OWL course site or found on 2-hour reserve at the Music Library.
3. **Electronic devices** for access to online materials through OWL and for preparing and submitting work, and with Zoom installed and attached to a Western e-mail account for accessing meetings if necessary.
4. **Printer and scanner** for completing work and uploading it to OWL using the Assignments tool. If a phone or other digital camera is to be used as a scanner, software will be required for converting image files to PDF and for compiling images into a single file. *The number of files submitted as part of a single assignment should never exceed the number of sections in the assignment.*
5. **Optional but recommended: Professional quality music notation software.** Educational pricing is available online from the manufacturers. Please note:
  - i. Many free score editors available online will come with limitations that may prevent completion of work with required formatting, and the instructor makes *no allowances* for these limitations in the grading of assignments;
  - ii. This is not a course in the use of notation software: Students must develop their abilities to use their software independently and concurrently with the completion of the course work.
  - iii. You are allowed to complete work by hand then scan and submit (in other words, it is not a requirement that one purchase and learn to use music notation software). When doing so for the creation of scores, use professional quality manuscript paper, pencils and rulers and make sure the scan is clear, crisp, and properly oriented and sized.

#### IV. Evaluation:

Stages toward completion of projects	30%
Submissions of Work-In-Progress: 15%	
Lesson attendance and participation: 15%	
Repertoire Study (Forums)	20%
Compositions (2)	<u>50%</u>
	100%

#### Details of Evaluation:

**Compositions.** Each of the two compositions will be of significant proportions. More details will follow in a separate document, but there are 3 types of project that may be available depending on class size and other factors:

1. A reading session by Ensemble Made in Canada, to take place in January, is available. Four or five students will be selected to compose for this quartet (Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello) and will complete this work in the first term as their first composition. Complete scores and parts for the selected students will be due **December 8**.
2. Students in 3629 are sometimes selected to participate in a collaboration with student groups in the Chamber Music class. Selected students – if any – will be required to follow the guidelines for that collaboration as their first composition. The due date for the score and parts will be early in the second term, **exact dates TBA**.
3. Students will also propose a project independently, for performers and performing forces to be decided in consultation with the instructor. One or both of the compositions will proceed on this premise, with potentially slightly different requirements for the second term project depending on the timelines for completion of options 1 and 2. Term 1 due date for this option will be **December 8**; Term 2 due date for this option will be **April 6\***.

**Stages towards completion of projects:** To maintain continuity and momentum throughout the term, the student will submit work-in-progress toward their composition in stages. Each of these submissions will receive a grade based on the quality of the work and, more importantly, on the personal growth and progress on the project evident in each new submission. These submissions may also include elements of preparatory study of repertoire selected by the instructor and the student.

*Due dates (online submission):*

*Term 1: 13 Sept, 22 Sept, 4 Oct, 13 Oct, 27 Oct, 8 Nov, 17 Nov*

*Term 2: 17 Jan\*, 24 Jan\*, 7 Feb\*, 16 Feb\*, 7 Mar\*, 16 Mar\**

The other part of this evaluation will also be made up of attendance at a minimum of 8 lessons per term, for which a weekly schedule will be developed, providing the opportunity for 10-12 lessons per term.

A separate handout will detail the requirements of each stage and the methods of evaluation.

**Repertoire Study.** Study of repertoire by selected composers will be completed through use of the Forums tool on OWL. Each student will be required to complete 3 substantial forum entries and 3 thoughtful replies.

Due dates (forum entries and responses): 29 Sept, 20 Oct, 22 Nov, 2 Feb\*, 2 Mar\*, 23 Mar\*

A separate handout will detail the requirements of the Repertoire Study.

*\*Asterisks above indicate revised dates because of term adjustments due to COVID-19\**