

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

**MUSIC 3649A - Studies in Music Theory IV  
Fall 2021**

Lectures: Tues 9:30-10:20 & Thur 9:30-11:20, TC202

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**Course Content:**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the theory and analysis of post-tonal Western art music from the first half of the twentieth century. Topics studied will include pitch centricity and symmetry, important referential collections, composition with motivic cells, integer models of pitch and pitch-class sets, basic operations on pitch-class sets, relationships between pitch-class sets, analyzing post-tonal music, temporal issues in post-tonal music, re-interpreting the past, musical borrowing, and twelve-tone theory. We will also consider how other parameters—such as rhythm, dynamics, and texture—contribute to musical form in the absence of tonality. Primary sources studied will include excerpts and/or complete compositions by Debussy, Ravel, Stravinsky, Bartók, Scriabin, Schoenberg, Berg, Webern, Messiaen, Milhaud, Ives, Hindemith, Crawford, Dallapiccola, Varèse, and other composers from the period.

**Required Texts:**

Miguel Roig Francoli, *Understanding Post-Tonal Music*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Routledge, 2021).  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Anthology of Post-Tonal Music*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Routledge, 2021).

**Supplementary Materials:**

Joseph N. Straus, *Introduction to Post-Tonal Theory*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (WW Norton, 2016) – on reserve

Supplemental materials, assignments, and announcements will be available on the Owl course page (<http://owl.uwo.ca/portal>). Be sure to check the course page regularly for updates. In addition, audio CDs will be placed on reserve in the music library for listening to compositions studied in this class.

**Course Requirements:**

Regular participation in classroom discussions; weekly readings and written assignments

drawn from both the textbook and supplementary materials; a midterm test; and a final exam. A listening list is posted on Owl and a listening component drawn from that list will be included on the midterm and final exam. You are required to bring your textbook, anthology, and any required scores to the lectures. Supplemental scores posted on Owl will also be distributed in class if they are required for in-class discussion.

### Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, you'll know how to classify any collection of pitches, to manipulate it in formally defined ways (including transposition and inversion), and to explain some of its properties (for example, its total interval content or special relations to other sets). With these skills, you'll be able to analyze pitch organization in atonal and serial music. Finally, you will be familiar with selected compositions from the first half of the twentieth century, which you'll be able to recognize aurally.

### Grade Breakdown:

Assignments (6; see course schedule)	35%
Quizzes (ca. 3-5; unannounced)	5%
Midterm Test (Thur Oct 28 in-class)	20%
<u>Final Exam (date TBA by Registrar's Office)</u>	<u>40%</u>
Final Grade	100%

\* There will be several unannounced short pop quizzes administered during the first 10 minutes of class, designed to check your basic skills. If you arrive late and miss a quiz, there will not be a make-up. But you may be forgiven for missing a quiz if extenuating circumstances prevail (as described in section 'iv' of the 'Notes' below).

\*\* To pass the class a student must earn a combined weighted-average score of at least 50% on the midterm test and the final exam. (The formula used for the weighted average is  $\text{Avg} = \text{Midterm} * 0.33 + \text{Final} * 0.67$ )

\*\*\* Students are advised not to make travel and/or employment arrangements for the winter recess until after the final exam schedule is posted by the Registrar's Office and the exam is administered.

### Notes:

i) **Course Prerequisites: Music 2651A/B or the former Music 2650A/B.** 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. 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)

Special Note for Covid-19-related Situations:

As a guideline, if a student has been contacted by the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) to self-quarantine due to a Covid-19-related situation, then the Self-Reported Absence system is not to be used to report this absence or to request an academic accommodation. The student should contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as they are notified.

In general, students are advised to not self-determine when to self-isolate. Unless directed by the MLHU students should go about their business as usual. But if a student chooses to self-isolate due to a suspected Covid-19-related situation while waiting to receive direction from the MLHU then the student is directed to contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as possible for further direction on receiving accommodation consideration.

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 assignments will receive a grade of zero.

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](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 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](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 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) **Recording of Online Activities:** As per note ix, if the course moves to online delivery, all the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

xi) **Online Etiquette:** As per note ix, if the course moves to online delivery, 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.

xii) **Lectures vs. Textbook:** The presentation of curricular content in this class may occasionally deviate from the presentation of materials in the required textbook. In such cases the material provided in the lectures and/or the notes posted on OWL always supersedes the presentation in the textbook and should therefore be treated as the definitive representation of that topic.

xiii) **Assignment Formatting & Submission:** Complete assignments using appropriate word processing and/or music notation software. In some cases, musical examples may be annotated neatly in pencil on proper manuscript paper or on the score itself and then scan that excerpt of manuscript into the Word or Adobe doc. Handwritten or otherwise sloppy assignments will NOT be graded! Assignments are to be

submitted electronically by 5:00 pm on the scheduled due date using your Owl assignment tool. Assignments need to be submitted as a single Word doc or Adobe pdf file. Do NOT submit your assignment by email as a series of jpeg's from your cell phone, or any other unapproved file format – assignments submitted in this way will also NOT be graded!

xiv) **Plagiarism Detection Software Usage:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

xv) **Electronic Devices in Exams:** Electronic devices of any type will not be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).

xvi) **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.

xvii) **Important Dates for Fall 2021:**

Wed Sept 8 – undergraduate classes begin

Thu Sept 16 – last day to add a first term half-course or full course

Mon Oct 11 – Thanksgiving Day Holiday (classes excused)

Mon Nov 1 to Sun Nov 7 – Fall Reading Week (classes excused)

Fri Nov 12 – last day to drop a first term half-course without academic penalty

Tues Nov 30 – last day to drop a full course without academic penalty

Wed Dec 8 – undergraduate classes end

Thu Dec 9 – Study Day (classes excused)

Fri Dec 10 to Tues Dec 21 – Examination period

## Music 3649A - Fall 2021 Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Due
Sept 9	Overview of 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century Compositional Styles Diatonic & Pentatonic Collections	<i>UPM</i> , 1-13	
Sept 14	Analysis: Debussy, “La Cathédral,” <i>Préludes</i> , Bk I	<i>UPM</i> , 13-26	
Sept 16	Composition with Motivic Cells Analysis: Stravinsky, ‘Introduction,’ <i>The Rite of Spring</i>	<i>UPM</i> , 26-36	
Sept 21	Rhythmic and Metric Irregularities in Post-Tonal Music	<i>UPM</i> , 242-54	<b>Assign #1</b>
Sept 23	Interval Cycles, Equal Divisions of the Octave, Symmetrical Motivic Cells, & Pitch Symmetry Axis	<i>UPM</i> , 41-53	
Sept 28	Symmetrical Scales	<i>UPM</i> , 53-61	
Sept 30	Analysis: Bartók, “Song of the Harvest & “Whole-Tone Scale”; Introduction to Pitch-Class Set Theory	<i>UPM</i> , 61-68 <i>UPM</i> , 73-82	
Oct 5	Pitch-Class Set Theory (cont.)	<i>UPM</i> , 83-92	<b>Assign #2</b>
Oct 7	Pitch-Class Sets: Further Properties and Relationships	<i>UPM</i> , 92-100	
Oct 12	Pitch-Class Sets: Further Properties and Relationships	<i>UPM</i> , 100-106	
Oct 14	Analyzing Atonal Music Analysis: Webern, <i>String Quartet</i> , Op. 5, No. 3 Analysis: Webern, <i>String Quartet</i> , Op. 5, No. 4	<i>UPM</i> , 111-15 <i>UPM</i> , 116-23 <i>IPT</i> , 137-42	
Oct 19	Analysis: Berg, “Schlafend trägt man mich,” Op. 2, No. 2	<i>IPT</i> , 143-48	<b>Assign #3</b>
	Analysis: Schoenberg, “Nacht,” <i>Pierrot Lunaire</i> , Op. 21	<i>IPT</i> , 28-31	
Oct 21	Analysis: Schoenberg, “Angst und Hoffen,” Op. 15, No. 7 Harmonic Extensions & Neo-Harmony	<i>UPM</i> , 123-31 Suppl.	
Oct 26	Harmonic Extensions & Neo-Harmony (cont.)	Suppl.	
Oct 28	Midterm Test (in-class)		
Nov 2	Fall Reading Week (No class)		
Nov 4	Fall Reading Week (No class)		
Nov 9	Reinterpreting the Past: Neoclassicism Analysis: Stravinsky, “Agnus Dei,” <i>Mass</i>	<i>UPM</i> , 135-41	<b>Assign #4</b>
Nov 11	Hindemith’s Theoretical & Compositional Premises Analysis: Hindemith, “Interlude in G,” <i>Ludus Tonalis</i>	<i>UPM</i> , 141-48	
Nov 16	Ultramodernism: Ives and Musical Borrowing Analysis: Ives, “The Cage”	<i>UPM</i> , 152-56	

Nov 18	Analysis: Crawford, <i>Diaphonic Suite</i> No. 4, III Introduction to Contour Theory	<i>UPM</i> , 156-61 <i>IPT</i> , 126-29
Nov 23	Introduction to Twelve-Tone Music & Basic Operations	<i>UPM</i> , 164-73 <b>Assign #5</b>
Nov 25	Twelve-Tone Matricies & Row Identification Analysis: Dallapiccola, <i>Quaderno musicale</i> , Nos. 5 & 11 Analysis: Webern, "Wie bin ich froh!" Op. 25, No. 1	<i>UPM</i> , 173-78 <i>UPM</i> , 179-82 <i>IPT</i> , 22-27 & 303-06
Nov 30	More Twelve-Tone Topics – Invariance & Symmetry Analysis: Webern, <i>Piano Variations</i> , Op. 27, II	<i>UPM</i> , 186-94 <i>UPM</i> , 195-199
Dec 2	More Twelve-Tone Topics – Combinatoriality Analysis: Schoenberg, <i>Klavierstücke</i> , Op. 33a	<i>UPM</i> , 199-205 <i>UPM</i> , 205-13
Dec 7	More Twelve-Tone Topics – Derived Series Analysis: Webern, <i>String Quartet</i> , Op. 28, I (excerpts) Analysis: Berg, <i>Violin Concerto</i> (excerpts)	<i>IPT</i> , 318-22 <b>Assign #6</b> <i>IPT</i> , 342-47 <i>IPT</i> , 314-15
TBA	Final Exam	

\* *This schedule is subject to revision by the instructor based on the satisfactory progress of the class.*

*UPM* = Miguel Roig-Francoli, *Understanding Post-Tonal Music*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (required text)

*IPT* = Joseph N. Straus, *Introduction to Post-Tonal Theory*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (on reserve)