

**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
COMPOSITION 4629**

Course Outline for Winter 2022 Term

(Continuation from the Fall Term, which was taught by Dr. Omar Daniel)

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 TC-128 or online, via Zoom

This course will primarily consist of weekly private studio lessons held, alternately, in person in TC 339, or possibly online via Zoom.

The entire class will meet during the official group meeting time *only occasionally* during the winter term. 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 possibly instructional presentations on using VCV Rack, a virtual Eurorack emulator software application. Any group meetings will be announced at least 1 week ahead of time. 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

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 repertoire. Students will complete at least two compositions based on parameters as defined by the instructor in consultation with the student. 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

Completion of Composition 2: *Continuation from Fall semester*

For those participating in the Student Composer/Chamber Ensemble Collaboration*, **

Deadlines:

Week of February 7: penultimate draft of score to be presented during each respective student's private lesson.

February 17, 12:30-1:15 pm: final version of score and parts due
Hard copies of score and parts to be handed to Rashaan Allwood, the GTA liaison for the chamber music collaborative.

For any student completing a different project for Composition 2**

Deadline for score and parts: TBD in the Fall semester in consultation with Dr. Omar Daniel

**Most students in 4629 will participate in the Annual Chamber Groups-Composer Collaborative. Composer assignments to specific chamber ensembles 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.*

***Details regarding instrumentation and duration for Composition 2 will have previously been decided by the instructor (Dr. Omar Daniel) in consultation with each individual student during the Fall 2021 semester.*

Final Project:

The parameters of this project (instrumentation, duration, form, any use of virtual synthesis such as VCV Rack, etc...) will be determined in consultation between the instructor and the student.

Deadline: April 8, 11:59 pm (or sooner)

Online submission through OWL of score and/or any other required material.

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 14 and 21, 2022. 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 2: 25%* of Winter term

Final Project: 30%* of Winter term

Analytical Presentation: 20% of Winter term

Other Work: 12%* of Winter term

Attendance, Preparation and Participation: 13%** of Winter term

*Evaluation of evaluation compositional work will take into account the following:

Musicality

Originality and creative thinking

Clarity of compositional methodology and approach

Musical form and cohesiveness of the composition

Craft, instrumentation and orchestration

Professionalism in the 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday March 30, 2022, 7:30 pm, vKH – Annual Chamber Music/ Student Composers Concert. Mandatory attendance.

Students must also attend the dress rehearsal for their respective compositions, times TBA.

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 may be 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:

Adler, Samuel. *The Study of Orchestration*. (3rd ed.) New York: Norton, 2002. ISBN: 039397572X MT70.A3 2002

Solomon, Samuel, *How to Write for Percussion: a comprehensive guide to percussion composition*, second edition, NY NY: Oxford University Press, 2016 MT40.S82

Stone, Kurt, *Music Notation in the Twentieth Century*, New York, W.W. Norton and Co., 1980. MT35.S87

Heussenstamm, George, *The Norton Manual of Music Notation*, New York, W.W. Norton and Co., 1987. MT35.H55 1987

Karkoschka, Erhard, *Notation In New Music: A critical Guide to Interpretation and Realisation*, (Translated by Ruth Koenig) New York: Praeger, 1972 MT35.K185 S33 1972

Morgan, Robert P., editor. *Twentieth-Century Music: a history of musical style in modern Europe and America*, New York : Norton, 1991 ISBN 0-393-95272-X ML197.M675

PLEASE NOTE

A revised outline may be provided on the first day of class in the Winter semester.

Important University Policy Information

i) **Course Prerequisites:** [MU3629 with an average of 70% or greater. Please make certain that you have the appropriate prerequisites for this course]. 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

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

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

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

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:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered 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 assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Other Course Policies

Online Etiquette: Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please observe the following 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.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

The student may use a laptop to take notes, view scores, etc. However, any computer activity not specifically related to the lecture topic is unacceptable, and student will be asked to leave the class if they violate this policy. Students must turn cell phones off during and consultations. Recording lectures or lessons is not permitted.

Other important dates, 2022:

January 10 – classes begin
February 21 – Family Day
April 8 – Last day of second-term courses
April 9 – Study Day
April 10-30 – Final Exam Period
April 15 – Good Friday
June 13-17 – June Convocation