

**MUS3629 Composition II**  
**T. Ducharme**

**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 or three medium-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;
  - Group discussion of compositions in progress will occur at regular intervals throughout the year, during selected class times.
- 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.*

## **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. Does not include due dates, listed elsewhere.*

### **Term 1.**

Wednesday 5 October 2:30-3:20, TC202. Class meeting “Masterclass” to present and discuss works-in-progress

*Tuesday 25 Oct, von Kuster Hall. Fall Student Composers Concert. Rehearsals begin at 3:30pm; Concert 8:00pm–10:30pm. More information to follow.*

Wednesday 26 October 2:30-3:20, TC202. Class meeting “Masterclass.”

*Monday 31 October – Sunday 6 November. Fall Reading Week.*

Mon 28 Nov, 1:30pm–2:20pm, von Kuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

Wed 30 Nov, 1:30pm–3:20pm, von Kuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

Mon 5 Dec, 1:30pm–2:20pm, von Kuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

*Monday 5 December. Contemporary Music Studio Concert. 7:30PM, von Kuster Hall.*

*Tuesday 6 December. Fall Electroacoustic Music Concert. 8 PM, Studio 242.*

Wed 7 Dec, 1:30pm–3:20pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

### **Term 2.**

Wednesday 25 January 1:30-3:20, TC202. Class meeting “Masterclass”

*Saturday 18 February – Sunday 26 February. Spring Reading Week.*

Wednesday 1 March 1:30-3:20, TC202. Class meeting “Masterclass”

*Sat 25 Mar, 8:30am–2:00pm, von Kuster Hall. Chamber Music Collaboration Dress Rehearsal #1.*

Mon 27 Mar, 1:30pm–2:20pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

Wed 29 Mar, 1:30pm–2:20pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

*Wed 29 Mar 2:30–3:20pm & Thursday 30 March 3:00-3:30pm. Wind Ensemble Rehearsals with Viet Cuong. Paul Davenport Theatre.*

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

Mon 3 Apr, 1:30pm–2:20pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

Wed 5 Apr, 1:30pm–3:20pm, vonKuster Hall. Composition Readings/Recordings.

*Tues 4 April, 6PM, Paul Davenport Theatre. Spring Electroacoustic Music Concert.*

*Wed 5 April, 7:30pm–10:30pm, vonKuster Hall. Chamber Music/Student Composer Concert.*

*Monday 10 April, 7:30PM, Paul Davenport Theatre. Contemporary Music Studio.*

### 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	25%
Submissions of Work-In-Progress: 12.5%	
Lesson attendance and participation: 12.5%	
Repertoire Study (Forums)	15%
Compositions (2 or 3)	<u>60%</u>
	100%

## Details of Evaluation:

**Compositions.** Depending on student's participation in the Chamber Music Initiative, students will complete either: (a) A piece for the Chamber Music Initiative (40%, see below) + 2 "Term Exercises" (10% each) to be performed/recorded in the end-of-term sessions in von Kuster Hall; or (b) two Term Projects (30% each)

**Term Projects** will be pieces of significant proportions composed for small groups of instruments and/or voices chosen in collaboration with the instructor, with the goal being a reading and recording of the work in the end-of-term reading sessions in November/December and March/April. These scores will be submitted for assessment on the final day of classes in each term (December 8, April 10).

Pieces for the **Chamber Music Initiative** will be compositions of significant proportions, composed for an ensemble assigned to the student and with whom the student will collaborate. More details, including due dates, will follow in a separate document. Participation in this will depend on the availability of ensembles and the abilities of the students.

**Term Exercises** will be short compositions composed by those participating in the Chamber Music Initiative. These will be written: (a) in the period during first term before Chamber Groups have been assigned to students; and (b) in the period during second term after the Chamber Music pieces have been completed and submitted. These pieces will be suitable for performance by a soloist or small ensemble during the reading sessions in November/December and March/April. These scores will be submitted for assessment on the final day of classes in each term (December 8, April 10).

**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: 19 Sept, 5 Oct\*, 17 Oct, 26 Oct\*, 9 Nov*

*Term 2: 16 Jan, 25 Jan\*, 6 Feb, 1 Mar\*, 8 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 sets of thoughtful replies.

Due dates (forum entries and responses): 26 September, 12 October, 16 November, 1 February, 15 February, 15 March.

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

## IV. Notes.

1. **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.
2. **Grading scale:** A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.
3. **Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%):** Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate policy on accommodation for medical illness at the following website for further details regarding requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

4. **Academic Consideration for Missing Work (<10%):** In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (ie. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean's office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(zes) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.
5. **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)
6. **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.**

7. **Gender-Based and Sexual Violence:** Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca) or call 519 661-3568.
8. **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)
9. **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>
10. **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.