

Outline for Applied Lessons Allison Wiebe awiebe6@uwo.ca MB314

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- <http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/course-outlines.html>
- Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with Jury Requirements for their instrument: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/juryRequirements/PIANO%20jury%20requirements.pdf>
- as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>

COURSE SYLLABUS:

- The student has elected this course of study to become a highly skilled, expressive and well-rounded musician through the voice of the piano. Each student is evaluated on his/her performance and proficiency. While everyone's progress will be different, here are some concrete goals over the course of a semester:
 - The student will be able to technically and artistically perform 30 min of repertoire **per term**, and are required to perform for memory, with an accumulating jury in April.
 - The student will demonstrate basic background information of his/her performed repertoire that can include such topics as recording artists, historical/biographical background, and analysis. It is imperative to have analyzed each piece prior and during the learning process which will ease the memory of each work.
 - The student should show professionalism and a high level of personal and time commitment to his or her progress.
- The relationship between the piano and how one uses the body is imperative, each lesson will include the introduction of technical concepts with body movements in mind, and the application of these techniques to the repertoire. Sound production, posture and technical aspects of piano playing will be addressed.

Time Commitment:

- Practice is essential for improvement. Non-performance majors are expected to practice studio instruction material for a MINIMUM of 3-4 hours daily and performance majors 4+ hours minimum as they have more material to cover.
- Students are expected to practice daily and to be well prepared for each lesson. They are required to develop an effective and healthy approach to practicing with consideration that it is a mentally and physically demanding activity, requiring fitness, a daily routine, and regular breaks to maximize efforts and to avoid risks of physical injuries.
- Practice techniques will be discussed in weekly instruction based on individual needs. Keep in mind, it is the *quality* of practice which determines progress, not merely the number of hours spent at the piano.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Recommended technique books:

Hanon: The Virtuoso Pianist: Schirmer

Dohnanyi: Essential Finger Exercises: Editio Musica Budapest

Pischna: Technical Studies: Sixty Progressive Exercises for the Piano: Schirmer

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Music Majors: 1920, 2920, 2921, 3920, 3922, 4920

Jury Mark: 25%; Performance Class Mark: 10%

Studio Instructor: Term I: 32.5% Term II: 32.5%

Non-Music Majors: 1925, 2925, 3925, 4925, 3924y, 3929, 4924y, 4929

Jury Mark: 25%

Studio Instructor: Term I: 37.5% Term II: 37.5%

No Performance Class required, but attendance is encouraged.

Performance Majors: 3921, 4921, 4922, 4923

Jury: 20%; Performance Class: 10%

Studio Instructor: Term I: 35% Term II: 35%

PERFORMANCE CLASS/CONCERT ATTENDANCE

- **10% of Performance Class grade is based on attendance, performance and participation in each scheduled performance class**
- **N/A for 2020 due to COVID:** 5% for the “Concert Attendance Requirement” in *MPS Handbook*: all students enrolled in performance classes must attend a minimum of 12 concerts per academic year (excluding concerts and performances in which the student is participating). Each student will be given a concert attendance card which will be signed by professors at the end of the various concerts. This requirement will be factored in the performance class grade (the percentage is left up to the instructor).
- attendance is mandatory and punctuality will be marked
- you are required to perform for memory and only when prepared enough to perform with a purpose in mind. We will make up a schedule during the first meeting.
 - Never abuse this privilege by testing your memory. A more formal approach is required as well – appropriate attire, shoes, and performance etiquette (no unnecessary comments from the stage, etc.) This is all part of the package.
- the audience will supply oral comments after each performance and send written comments after each master class - email the student and CC myself
 - the written comments should be concise and formally written - include at least one helpful suggestion and positive reinforcement for each performance
 - grammar and spelling are considered
- for oral comments, same rules apply, ask how to pronounce the names and aim for a balance of critiques
- There will be studio recitals throughout the year that are mandatory, please utilize all opportunities to ensure ease in performing.

Studio Instruction:

- The final studio grade will be based on the amount of progress made during the course of the semester, independent learning initiative and attitude/professionalism toward the learning process
- Based on the ability to understand and integrate concepts and the quality and quantity of work covered
- Students' playing relative to requirements of the level
- Each lesson will be graded, and because the final grade for this portion is an average of all weeks, consistency is crucial.
- A comprehensive goal for each lesson is necessary, aim to have an idea of what you would like to work on and what goal you would like to accomplish before entering the lesson
- Preparation for each weekly lesson includes sufficient daily practice to accomplish reasonable goals; attentiveness to details discussed at your prior lesson; corrections made to wrong notes, rhythms, etc.; and learning the score with accuracy.
- Half of the jury repertoire ***must be memorized and performed*** in master class prior to the end of Term I.

Attendance

- **NEW FOR 2020: as we are only allowed 45 min of f2f music making, each student will be scheduled thirteen 45 min lessons per term. Performance majors will have one 45 min lesson and one 30 min lesson.**
- All missed lessons by instructor will be made up, but according to the MPS Handbook, if the student cancels a lesson for any reason, the instructor is not required to make it up.
- An unexcused absence of a lesson results in a failing grade for that lesson. Unexcused tardiness will lower a previous week's grade by an increment. An absence or tardiness is excused only if prior notice is given to the professor for a medical or personal emergency, and a week prior for an academic, school-related conflict. See notes or MPS Handbook for further information.

Communication

- All of our communication will be via email. Every student is assigned a university email account and will be the only email used, hotmail and other addresses will not be acceptable. **You will be responsible for checking your Western email daily for any messages concerning piano lessons and special events.** Please forward your Western Mail to your preferred provider if necessary. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed.

Physical contact - NEW FOR 2020: There will be NO physical contact.

- *Due to the physical nature of playing piano, physical contact will sometimes be necessary in order to correct posture and position while playing. Physical contact is inevitable if you are to properly understand the playing mechanisms and make the necessary adjustments. It is assumed that you will communicate if, at any time, you feel uncomfortable.*

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Western policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask for medical or religious reasons must seek formal accommodation through Accessible Education at aew@uwo.ca.

Students are expected not to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Department, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

NOTES:

vii) Other important dates:

September 8	Classes Begin
October 11	Thanksgiving Day Holiday (classes excused)
November 1-7	Fall Reading Week (classes excused)
December 8	Classes end
December 9	Study Day (classes excused)
December 10-21	Examination period
January 3	Classes resume
February 19-27	Reading Week
February 21	Family Day (Stat Holiday)
April 1	Classes end
April 2-3	Study Days
April 4-30	Examination period
April 15	Good Friday (Stat Holiday)

I. Mandated Notes:

i) **Course Prerequisites:** [None]

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:** 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.