

# CELLO STUDIO OF PROFESSOR TOM WIEBE

## UNDERGRADUATE and GRADUATE COURSE INFORMATION

### 2021-22

Welcome! I hope you have all had a good summer. I am looking forward to working with you all!

First of all, we extend a warm welcome to our new cello students, doctoral student Ethan Allers, and first-year undergraduate student Callum Jarvis. We are glad you are here at Western, and wish you a good year.

I also welcome all the returning cellists, and hope you all had a good summer, however unusual it has been!

This document lists pertinent information for your cello studies. Please read it carefully. **Also, it is your responsibility to know all the contents of the UWO Music Performance website.** Here is the link to the 2021-22 Music Performance Studies department website: <https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/index.html>

#### **HOW TO REACH ME**

Email: [twiebe@uwo.ca](mailto:twiebe@uwo.ca)

Office: 661-2111 ex. 86987

Music Building 319

Please do not text me unless you are running late for a lesson, or encountering an emergency.

#### **LEARNING OUTCOME**

During your year in this course, I wish for you to gain a greater love and understanding of the music you study, and learn the work process and skills by which you learn to perform it.

#### **CELLO PRACTICE/STORAGE ROOMS**

The cello rooms are MB17, MB21, and MB23. You can open them once you acquire the combinations for the keypad locks (see below).

#### **GETTING A KEYPAD CODE**

Email [music-keys@uwo.ca](mailto:music-keys@uwo.ca) to request the code to the room(s) for your instrument. **Please do not share your code with anyone else.** If you had access last year, your old code(s) *will no longer work* as of 26 August 2021.

**Cello:** Cello students are meant to be able to use any of these three rooms for practice so request codes for all three rooms.

MB 17

MB 21

MB 23

According to protocols updated in July 2021, more than one person may once again occupy cello practice rooms.

You may take off your mask when you are in a practice room. **Otherwise, unless and until the university notifies you otherwise, you must wear a mask indoors at the university.**

Finally, the security of everyone's belongings, including their cellos and bows, depends on **YOUR** mindfulness. You must **ALWAYS** lock the door to the cello room you've left unattended, even if you leave for only a short while.

#### **LESSONS**

I give weekly lessons to all of my cello students. This year, my current plan is, normally speaking, to give only in-person lessons and performance classes, COVID situation permitting.

Cello lessons begin the week of September 13.

Near the beginning of September, I will post a signup sheet with lesson slots outside my studio door. Please sign up with pencil for a time that suits your schedule. Heather, Steve and Ethan receive 90-minute lessons. All others receive 60-minute lessons.

Lessons are currently scheduled to take place in my studio, Music Building 319. Until and unless otherwise notified, all **students and all pianists must normally wear masks** for my in-person lessons. Failure to wear a mask for an in-person lesson may result in the forfeiture of a lesson. I will also always wear a mask for in-person lesson, until and unless we are no longer required to wear masks.

#### **Bring for Lessons**

-until and unless otherwise notified, **bring your own music stand to every lesson. I will not allow you to use a music stand from my studio.** If you use a wire stand, I strongly suggest you also bring a hard surface which you can place on your stand behind your sheet music, so you can write on the music more easily

-I also strongly suggest that you bring a recording device to record your lessons

I will make notes from each of your lessons, and send them to you via OneDrive.

Unless you are sick the day of the lesson, you must call or email me at least 24 hours in advance to cancel a lesson. I am **not** obliged to make up lessons you have cancelled. I **am** obliged to make up lessons I have cancelled. If you cancel because you are sick, please notify me by email before the lesson's start time. Please do not text me or call my cell phone unless it's an emergency—like if you're running late.

I expect you to appear on time for your lessons. If you are more than ten minutes late for a lesson, that lesson may be forfeited.

Normally, I will give you specific tasks to prepare for your next lesson. Your grade will depend in part on how you carry out those tasks.

**You must be warmed up for at least 15 minutes before a lesson. I will not hear you before you have warmed up for 15 minutes.**

### **VISION STATEMENT**

Each of you is required to email me a 360-word-or-shorter vision statement, articulating: a) what you would like to be doing after you are finished your studies; and b) *why* you want to do it. The statement is due **Monday, September 27**. Submitting it late may impact your grade.

### **REQUIRED ITEMS**

-a portable music stand (you **must** bring this to all in-person lessons).

-a metronome/pitch device with drone for each pitch and pitch indicator, such as a Korg TMR-50, or equivalent technology on a smart phone app.

-Sevcik op. 2 School of Bowing Technique parts 1 and 2. Make sure it is the cello version, not the violin version. You can either purchase it, or download it for free, if there is a legal way to do that.

-the Bärenreiter edition of J.S. Bach's Solo Suites for Violoncello

### **PERFORMANCE CLASSES**

This year, weekly performance classes will be in-person. Unless and until we are otherwise notified, we must all be masked during performance classes. Weekly performance classes will be **Thursdays, 7 p.m.**, in-person, in **Music Building 254**. Heather, Ariana, Eve and Callum are required to attend all performance classes for at least 60 minutes per class (the classes may last longer); all other students are encouraged to attend and play in the classes, if their schedules permit. The first performance class will be **September 9**.

The final decision on who plays in class rests with me. If you want to play on a specific week, let me know.

Near the beginning of each term, I will post a schedule on OWL, announcing who plays when for the rest of term. **The OWL schedule is the final authority** on who plays what, and when, in performance class. It is **your responsibility** to be ready to play on the dates when your name appears. It is also **your responsibility** to prepare for your performance, once you are scheduled to play on a given date.

If the piece you play for a performance class requires a pianist, it is **your responsibility** to ensure the pianist is available for the class. If the pianist is not available, let me know at least two weeks in advance, so I can reschedule you when your pianist is available.

Each student must record their performances in class with a recording device. They should hear a recording of their performance within 48 hours after the class.

This year, I will not have a memory requirement for playing in class or studio recitals. But I might strongly encourage you to play certain unaccompanied music, such as Bach, for memory.

### **PIANISTS**

#### **LESSONS WITH PIANISTS**

As of July 2021, updated COVID policy allows pianists to play with you as long as needed during your in-person lessons. Like you and me, they must normally wear masks for in-person lessons until and unless the university allows us not to wear masks during in-person lessons.

#### **PLAYING WITH PIANISTS**

*If you are playing a degree recital this year, please consult me before booking a pianist.*

*Here are some pianists I recommend to play with you, including if you give a degree recital. You would have to pay them their rate:*

*Debbie Grigg*

*Natalia Skomorokhova*

*Yolanda Tapia*

If you need their contacts, please ask me.

Our Faculty of Music offers an undergraduate accompanying-for-credit program. If you need a pianist, and are not playing a degree recital this year, **let me know before classes begin**. I may be able to find a pianist through this program. Pianists in this program do not charge to play with you.

#### **STUDIO RECITALS**

According to July 2021 regulations all cello and non-cello Western music students are allowed to hear their cello colleagues in cello studio recitals. As of October 22, 2021, other audience members will also be allowed to hear cello studio recitals. I will attempt to book space for at least two recitals this year. Students play at least one movement of a piece they're working on, or a short piece. Sometimes, recitals feature only some of my cello students. Normally, each student plays at least once in a studio recital during the school year.

#### **DEGREE RECITALS**

Our Faculty of Music currently plans to have live, in-person degree recitals in its performance spaces. Stephen, Heather and Ethan are eligible to play degree recitals in the 2021-22 school year.

According to July 2021 regulations all cello and non-cello Western music students are allowed to hear their cello colleagues in cello degree recitals. As of October 22, 2021, other audience members will also be allowed to hear their cello colleagues' cello degree recitals.

#### **JURIES**

All non-graduate students must play a cello jury in December (Heather) or April (all other undergraduates). The juries are currently expected to be in-person, with adjudicators listening in-person.

#### **CONCERT ATTENDANCE**

There will be no concert attendance cards in the 2021-22 school year.

#### **GRADING**

I will grade each of your lessons unofficially out of 100. At the end of each month, I will tell you what your average lesson grade was for that month. Your lesson grades will still normally comprise the *lesson component* of this course's grade. Your studio grade will be determined by your promptness and attendance for lessons, how receptive you are during lessons, and how much you retain from lesson to lesson. I will give each of you a studio grade in December and April.

Here is the link describing the breakdown of the grading system for each cello studio lesson course number:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/MPS%20pdf/lesson-requirements.pdf>

***Please consult the Mandated Notes below.***

#### **I. Mandated Notes:**

i) Course Prerequisites: [insert course number here or state None]. 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.

II. Optional Statements – only include those that are applicable – renumber as appropriate

i) Evaluation Policy Exemption: This course has received an exemption from the requirement in the Senate Policy on Evaluation of Undergraduate Academic Performance that stipulates "At least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade."

ii) Compulsory First Year Exam Exemption: The Dean's office has granted this course an exemption from the Senate policy that requires each first year course (1000-1999) to administer a common, compulsory, final examination scheduled during the examination period worth not less than 30% of the final grade.

iii) Examinations & Attendance: Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.