

**Percussion Ensemble Syllabus #954y**

**2021/2022 Academic Year**

**Dr. Jill Ball, Assistant Professor of Percussion -**

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**REHEARSAL TIMES**

Fridays 3:30-5:30. + 2 extra hours TBD

**IMPORTANT DATES: MANDATORY ATTENDANCE-**

**Thursday November 25, 2021 6-10pm PDT Dress Rehearsal**

**Friday November 26, 2021 12 :30 and 7 :30pm Performances**

**Thursday March 17, 2022 6-10pm PDT Dress Rehearsal**

**Friday March 18, 2022 12:30 and 7 :30pm Performances**

**Prerequisites:** Satisfactory audition or permission of the instructor

Content: Through the preparation and performance of percussion ensemble repertoire, students will further develop their technical proficiency on a broad range of instruments, their musicality in a broad range of styles, their ability to balance and blend in an ensemble, and the teamwork necessary for successful rehearsals and concerts. Traditional and contemporary percussion ensemble literature as well as transcriptions and popular styles will be explored. Students are expected to have pencils, black towels for trap trays, appropriate mallets and sticks for their parts and any small instruments that will become part of their personal collection. Part assignments are based on ability, work ethic and experience.

**Grading:** All performances are mandatory especially given the one person per part nature of the repertoire. Missing a performance without justification will result in a Fail. Each member must be able to be counted on barring illness or other extraordinary circumstances. Preparation of parts, attitude, being set-up on time and helping move gear are all factors in grading. Attendance and preparation for all rehearsals is required.

**Assessment is based on the following:**

**\*Tone production/technique:** Development of full range of characteristic instrument sounds with ability to perform music of increasing complexity. There is a direct correlation between technique, tone production and tone quality.

**\*Interpersonal Skills- Communication:** good listener; doesn't criticize, condemn, or complain; tries to see things from the other person's point of view.

Relationship building working creatively with others, communicating clearly, and collaborating with others

**\*Musical Expression** Dynamics, Phrase, Style, Vocabulary

**\*Preparation.**

Grading considerations/Rubric

***A+Outstanding, A Very Good, B Good, C Mediocre, D Poor, E Unacceptable***

	90% A+	80% A	70% B	60% C	50% D
<u>Technique/ Tone Quality</u>	Exemplary technique and tone quality	Tone quality is consistent and relates to desired technique	Good skill development but aware of problems. Evident effort	Slow progress, some awareness of sound quality but lack of understanding	Unaware of proper technique. Willful lack of desired sound quality.
<u>Interpersonal Skills Communication Relationship-Building</u>	Well-developed ability in both skill-sets	Becoming consistent in clearly communicating/ Good collaboration and creativity	Working to develop and refine interactions	Becoming aware of personal interactions and effects	Unaware of personal interactions and effects
<u>Musicality/ Phrasing</u>	Dynamics, phrasing and style are maturely expressed.	Thoughtful phrasing and attention to detail and style	Inconsistent attention to dynamics, phrase. Lacks stylistic understanding	Little attention to musical detail	Lack of dynamics or understanding of phrase
<u>Preparation Attitude/</u>	Excellent, consistent preparation	Evidence of Consistent practice, understanding of material	Effort is evident but lacks overall integrity	Inconsistent preparation, late, not set-up little direction	Lacks preparation

**Required information:**

i) **Course Prerequisites:** 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.