

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**
- 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

- 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 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

- 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.

NOTES:

vii) Other important dates:

September 7	Classes Begin
October 9	Thanksgiving Day Holiday (classes excused)
October 30-Nov 5	Fall Reading Week (classes excused)
December 7	Classes end
December 8	Study Day (classes excused)
December 11 and 12	3rd/4th year Performance Juries
January 8	Classes resume
February 17-25	Reading Week

March 29	Good Friday (Stat Holiday)
April 8	Classes end
April 11-15	Juries

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 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

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.

iv) **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 / lessons, or equivalent in applied studio courses) 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.

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.

x) **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. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519 661-3568.