

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
APPLIED MUSIC INSTRUCTION IN OBOE

Revised August 28, 2023

Applied Principal Instrument course information for x920, x925, 2921, 2922, 3921, 3922, 3924y, 3929, 4921, 4922, 4923, 4924y and 4929

1) Instructor: Shelley Heron, Lecturer, Oboe

Don Wright Faculty of Music
Talbot College
London, ON N6A 3K7
Email: sheron2@uwo.ca
Phone: (519) 661-2111, ext. 82043

Office: Music Building, MB 219

Office Hours: By appointment

2) COURSE INFORMATION AND SYLLABUS

This document provides pertinent information specific to your oboe studies. Please read it carefully. Also, it is your responsibility to know all the contents of the Western Music Performance Handbook. You can find it online at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

Students are responsible for acquainting themselves, via the Faculty website, with Jury Dates and Jury Requirements, as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook. These three documents together, as well as this syllabus, comprise the course outline for Applied Music Instruction, and students must acquire the course outline during the first week of class. The Music Performance Studies handbook and the Jury Requirements/Dates for each instrument are posted on the Faculty of Music website. The links to both documents can be found at <http://www.music.uwo.ca>. Look under “Department”, then “Performance”, or go to: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/dates.html> and <https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>.

The Syllabus can be found under “Lesson Requirements” at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

3) Objectives

To foster and develop performance skills on the oboe, enhancing technical ability, musical artistry, reed making, knowledge of repertoire, and performing experience. This may include instruction on other members of the oboe family, such as cor anglais, depending upon the student's abilities and the demands of performance ensembles. Genuine enjoyment of the instrument and its repertoire, and self-sufficiency (including reed making) are goals to be achieved during the course of study. Progress will be evaluated during every lesson and performance class.

3a) Course Content

Lessons will normally include attention to the physics of oboe playing, including breathing, embouchure, finger technique, tuning, reed making, and other technical matters, and may include exercise and warm-ups geared to the achievement of healthy and musically correct reflexes. Attention will also be paid to the ability to play scales by memory and to the use of etudes to assist in the development of technical facility and stamina. The development of musical artistry as exemplified by an informed and expressive approach to performance will be the ultimate goal.

Choice of repertoire, in consultation with the Jury Requirements, will be guided by the instructor, keeping in mind the abilities of the individual student and the expected standard appropriate to each course specialization and year. Personal initiative in repertoire selection will be encouraged, subject to approval of the instructor and jury regulations.

a) Course Number:

Course numbers being taught will vary from year to year and the list of possible course numbers appear in the Master Course Outline for Applied Music Instruction. Information can be found at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

b) Weekly Lessons:

Attendance at all lessons and performance classes is mandatory. Scheduled oboe lessons will be posted on the office door (MB 219). Occasionally, because of illness, inclement weather, or legitimate academic conflicts, lessons need to be rescheduled. Requests for unavoidable absences must be emailed or texted to the teacher for prior approval. The teacher must respond to the message for approval to be confirmed. Students who do not take the appropriate steps for cancelling or rescheduling a lesson will be given a failing mark for the missed lesson, and no make-up will be provided. Make-up and rescheduled lessons that are missed a second time will not be made up. If the instructor must cancel a lesson, every effort will be made to provide advanced notice of the cancellation and provision will be made for a make-up lesson.

c) Disciplined Practice Routine:

Consistent daily practice on assigned lesson materials is a must. The instructor, in discussion with each student, will recommend a specific amount of practice time and appropriate strategy. However, students should be prepared to dedicate 2 to 3 hours each day to private practice. Performance majors should expect to practice in excess of 3 hours per day.

3b) JURY EXAMINATIONS

Juries take place at the end of the second term. The student is responsible for preparing a program of repertoire, studied throughout the academic year that fulfills the listed jury requirements. Jury requirements can be downloaded from the following site:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/jury-requirements.html>

Final Jury Examination dates can be found at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/dates.html>

4) Course Materials:

Students are responsible for obtaining any assigned music by the following lesson. Students must own original music (still under copyright) for any repertoire they are working on. Where music has to be ordered, students are advised to borrow from the Faculty's Music Library to fill the gap while waiting for delivery. It is the responsibility of the student to engage the services of an accompanist as near the beginning of each course year as possible. Wise students will frequently bring their accompanists to a portion of their lessons as an aid to the proper learning of repertoire, and in preparation for Master Class performances.

All oboe students must acquire as a required text personal copies of the *Barret Complete Oboe Method*, Kalmus edition recommended. As an adjunct, other collections of etudes may be considered, as required: for example, Selner, Salviani, Ferling or Gillet etudes. However, the Barret etudes will be considered the course standard for undergraduate work. **Performance majors and graduate students** will be expected to acquire, for the purpose of orchestral repertoire preparation, **either** a complete set of *Difficult Passages*, by Evelyn Rothwell, pub. Boosey and Hawkes (3 volumes), **or** *Orchestral Excerpts for Oboe*, edited by John Ferrillo, pub. Theodore Presser. Strongly recommended for advanced performance majors, though not required, is *20th Century Orchestra Studies*, edited by John de Lancie, pub. Schirmer.

5) Methods of Evaluation:

Lesson Evaluation:

Grading for studio lessons will be based on attendance, perceived attitude, effort, and improvement, measured against the expectation of an absolute standard of performance at the university level as qualified by the course specialization and year of the student. Students will be evaluated based on their speed and ability at learning and mastering new repertoire, while achieving improvement in the areas of tone quality, technical ability, reed making, tuning, musical and stylistic accuracy, and the ability to handle performance anxiety. Each lesson will be evaluated, and a mark out of 10 will be assigned. At the end of each term, the eleven highest grades along with the term test will be averaged together to arrive at a final lesson mark. A mark of zero will be given for unapproved non-medical absences. Following is a list of criteria used in determining lesson marks:

Mark of A+ (9 - 10)

One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level

Mark of A (8 – 8.9)

Superior work which is clearly above average

Mark of B (7 - 7.9)

Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory

Mark of C (6 – 6.9)

Competent work, meeting requirements

Mark of D (5 – 5.9)

Fair work, minimally acceptable

Mark of F (below 5.0)

Fail

Performance Class Evaluation:

Music majors will be required to attend all performance/masterclasses consisting of student performances, discussion and practice of relevant oboe pedagogy. (Non-music majors are not required to attend, but will be welcome to do so, although no mark will be submitted.) Students will perform a minimum of twice each term. Unless the chosen piece is unaccompanied, the performance must be accompanied. Students performing with accompanists are required to arrange attendance and rehearsal times according to the following schedule:

- At least one rehearsal prior to the performance
- At least one coaching session during the regular lesson time prior to the performance
- Any necessary follow-up rehearsals to adequately prepare for the performance

At the end of the academic year, a final performance class mark out of 10 will be assigned, based on the following rubric:

Mark of 9 - 10

- All classes attended
- Meaningful contribution made to discussion
- 4 or more outstanding performances given
- All special oboe events attended
- Participation made in one or more special master classes/events

Mark of 8 – 8.9

- All classes attended
- Some contribution made to class discussion
- 4 or more well-prepared performances given
- All special oboe events attended

Mark of 7 – 7.9

- Most classes attended
- Limited contribution made to class discussion
- 4 performances given
- All special oboe events attended

Mark of 6 – 6.9

- 60% of classes attended
- Little contribution made to class discussion
- 3-4 performances given
- Some special oboe events attended

Mark of 0 to 5

- Multiple, unapproved absences
- No contribution made to class discussion
- 0 to 2 performances given
- Few or no special oboe events attended

Performance Class location, day(s) & hour(s) will be posted. For more information on performance class regulations, students can refer to:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

Technique Evaluation:

Each student is responsible for achieving their prescribed technical requirements (scales and etudes). Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of the requirements at scheduled term tests in the 11th week of classes (November) and the 23rd week of classes (March). The term test results will be included in the term mark.

Class Recital Participation

Oboe majors will be required to perform in all studio recitals. Attendance is also required for student or faculty oboe recitals or performances by visiting oboe soloists and will form part of the masterclass grade.

6) Statements Required by the Senate:

Course Prerequisites: x920, x925, 2921, 2922, 3921, 3922, 3924y, 3929, 4921, 4922, 4923, 4924y, 4929

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 & Missing Work ($\geq 10\%$):** 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. Academic Consideration provides students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate consideration, without compromising the academic integrity of the course or program, when they have been unable to complete some component of a course due to short-term extenuating circumstances. Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions (physical or mental) that may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities are directed to seek Academic Accommodation through Accessible Education ([Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)).

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), of the student's Home Faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness at the following website for further details regarding various requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration.pdf

Whenever possible, students who require academic consideration 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:

https://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 Thames Hall room 2170. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in Thames Hall 2170 or to click on the big green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

vii) **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education 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 (other than statutory 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. The Diversity Calendar from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion provides information on multifaith, multicultural and diversity related holidays and observances and links to resources for more information.

<https://www.edi.uwo.ca/resources/2816-2023-Diversity-Calendar-PDF.pdf>

ix) **Contingency Plan:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, should any university-declared emergency require 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 course will adapt accordingly. 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.

xi) **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.

xii) **Electronic Devices in Exams:** Electronic devices of any type will not be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).

xiii) **Electronic Devices in Classrooms:** The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.