

The University of Western Ontario Department of Music Performance Studies - Course Outline

Music 1905, 2905, 3905, 4905, 9528 (Early Music Ensemble) * Music 2971A, 2972B, 3971A, 3972B, 4971A, 4972B, special topics; (Grad.) Music 9568A, 9569B, special topics (Early Music Studio)

2023 - 2024

Course Instructors

Joseph Lanza – director - jlanza@uwo.ca

Borys Medicky – historic keyboards and chamber music MB 216 - bmedicky@uwo.ca

Ryan Baxter - TA (teaching assistant) rbaxte@uwo.ca

Course schedule

Class time information will be shared with students in person at the beginning of the Fall term.

Dress rehearsals and concerts may not occur on class days. Please make a note of the performance schedule which will be provided to you. Please contact the TA, Borys or myself regarding any issues you may have regarding attendance for class times as well as other special events ASAP. Borys and I will make accommodations where necessary if you notify us promptly. Otherwise, all students will be required to be present for dress rehearsals and concerts, as well as the Western/Tafelmusik residency, regardless of EMS class scheduling.

Course Description

A study of the styles of music composed mostly before c1800, through coaching sessions, rehearsal, and performance. Instrumentalists will make use of copies of period instruments. We explore approaches to performance which are reasonably close to those of the time a composition was initially performed. Students taking the course for ensemble credit should expect to contribute up to four hours of performance/rehearsal time each week. Students taking a half course credit will contribute up to two hours per week over both terms (or, very exceptionally, four hours per week over a single term.) Students registering in early music as two half-course credits will be expected to contribute up to four hours per week of /rehearsal time in both fall and winter terms.

Much of the music we will consider in the course does not of itself yield comprehensive information about approaches to performance (especially for the inexperienced), neither has it acquired reasonably 'fixed' performing traditions, such as those that one finds in much of the conventional world of modern instrument music making. Part of our rehearsal time will sometimes seem more 'exploratory' than 'goal-driven'. Students will be encouraged to share in the explorations we will make, and to engage their intellectual capacities every bit as much as their musical talents. In many cases we will find ourselves making some decisions about performance without having all the pieces of information we would like to possess.

Evaluation

Students will be assessed on their preparation for, and contributions to coaching sessions, rehearsals, and performances. Coaching sessions and rehearsals are not intended to provide time for practice. Students are expected to gain mastery over assigned repertoire on their own time.

Grading scale for all aspects of the course is A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

Unexcused absences from coaching sessions, rehearsals, or performances will be reflected in course grades.

Students are responsible for finding out about new information, markings, etc., resulting from any missed coaching sessions and rehearsals as soon as possible.

i) **Course Prerequisites: None.**

ii) **Grading scale:**

- undergraduate - A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.
- graduate: A=80-100%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, F=0-59%.

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_disabilities.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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:

[academic_consideration.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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 due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, students are required to meet with the EMS's director, Joseph Lanza or in the case of keyboard students, may be directed to meet with the keyboard consultant Borys Medicky, in order to determine an appropriate make up solution for missed work. 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 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:

[Academic Accommodation disabilities.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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

[2816-2023-Diversity-Calendar-PDF.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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) **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.”

xii) **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.

xiii) **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.

xiv) **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).

xv) **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.

xvi) **Plagiarism Detection Software Usage:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism, which includes AI writing detection tools. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

xvii) **Online Etiquette:** Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please observe the following general considerations of “netiquette”:

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offenses, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Other Important Information:

The EMS has a limited number of stands; students may be required to bring stands to rehearsals.

Punctuality for rehearsals is very important. Tuning for string instruments in particular is a critical issue in historical performance. Please arrive early enough to be ready to play, with your instrument ready for tuning at the beginning rehearsal. Use of binders for music is required; no loose pages. Concert dress is all black, unless otherwise decided by consensus.

The use of EMS rooms and keys -The TA will have keys to the EMS rooms. First priority will be practice access for keyboard students, then other EMS students, for practicing of period instruments only. Sharing of keys with non-EMS students or use of the space for modern instrument practicing without special permission from myself or the TA will result in loss of key privileges.

The equitable access to EMS rooms for practice and rehearsal is monitored by the TA, using an on-line sign up system. Joe and Borys also have manager status of this system.

Storage of instruments, other than bass, theorbo and keyboard instruments, will be at the responsibility and discretion of individual students.

EMS Dress Rehearsals, Concert Dates and Other Important Events

A schedule will be shared with you in person at the beginning of the Fall term. All events which are outside of normal class times are subject to Education Planning Committee (EPC) approval. Once approved, you will be excused from any Faculty of Music classes and events which conflict.

