

Academic Year 2020 – 2021
9506y/4976y Collaborative Musicianship - Piano Duos
Instructor: Prof. Leslie Kinton, PhD
Location and time: Von Kuster Hall, Thursdays, 10:30 – 12:00

Eligibility: Performance majors at all three levels (Bachelor, Masters, DMA).

Maximum enrolment: 10 students (i.e., five duos). First come first serve, except for 4th year performance majors where this is a required course.

Social distancing: Because of Covid-19, students will be seated in VKH during the class in a manner that maximises social distancing. **ALL STUDENTS (AND MYSELF) ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A NON-MEDICAL MASK FOR THE ENTIRE CLASS, EVEN WHILE PERFORMING. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

The class will be held in two segments: the first will be 45 minutes, from 10:30 – 11:15 a.m., after which we will all leave the hall according to existing guidelines; the second from 11:30 – 11:50 a.m. This scheduling is mandated by the university in order for the HVAC to do its job and exchange the air.

Course description:

Until this year, the purpose of this course has been to explore the piano-duo and piano-duet literature. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, and rules for social distancing, the only works that will be learned and performed will be those for **piano duo (i.e., two pianos)**. This may change as we receive direction as to social distancing requirements from the University and the Ministry of Health.

Each student will be partnered with another of equal skill level. Two piano-duos will be studied by each ensemble, one piece per semester. Coaching will be given during each class in master class format; this will involve two to three duos per class, depending on the length of the material prepared. At the end of each semester, during the final class, each duo will give an in-class performance of the piece they have been working on. Rehearsal times for each semester will be arranged during the first class. The choice of repertoire will require the instructor's approval, and will depend upon the students' programme of study (i.e., bachelor, masters, DMA).

Online component: According to university policy, because of Covid-19, all instruction will be either in a blended format, or totally online. For this class, we will meet via Zoom once per semester (dates to be determined) in order to discuss various issues of both duo AND duet performance.

In the event that the university, because of a worsening situation with the pandemic, orders ALL instruction to be online, every effort will be made to allow for streamed class performances, if possible. Further information on this and other possible scenarios will be

forthcoming. One possibility is for each duo to record their class performance before the class, upload it to YouTube where we will all listen to it before the class, and then I will lead a discussion on Zoom; the time listening will count as class time and will reduce the online component accordingly. Not ideal, but please be flexible in these trying times.

Marking scheme:

Term work and attendance: 40%

Final performance 1st semester: 30%

Final performance 2nd semester: 30%

University Mandated Notes:

i) **Course Prerequisites: All students must be performance majors at either the undergraduate or graduate level.** 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 of a student's Home Faculty.

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

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

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

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>

Specific Issues Related to Covid-19:

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.

Recording of Online Activities: All of the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Online Etiquette: Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- “Arrive” to class on time
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
- Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

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.