

WESTERN UNIVERSITY, CANADA
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
MUSIC 9523b: Counterpoint and Composition
Winter 2020

Dr. Peter Franck
TC 318, 519-661-2111, ext. 84330, pfranck@uwo.ca

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Room: TC 310

Individual office hours: by appointment via e-mail

Course Description. This course deals with how counterpoint and composition intersect with each other. More specifically, the course assays how invertible counterpoint and techniques related to it engage many facets of doing composition, including pedagogy, technique, harmony, form, and analysis, among others. Most of the repertoire discussed resides within the tonal canon, especially that within Baroque, Classical, and Romantic styles, though other repertoires may be considered (e.g., Renaissance music and twentieth-century music within the tonal tradition). The course involves reading and discussing primary and secondary sources concerning invertible counterpoint and related topics and analyzing selected works. The overall aim of the course is to gain a better appreciation of how invertible counterpoint and techniques related to it—primary foundations of music within the Western tonal tradition—significantly impact our understanding of composition.

Learning Outcomes. By the end of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- compile a knowledge base of primary and secondary literature concerning counterpoint;
- develop insights into invertible counterpoint and related techniques and their impact upon composition;
- implement a variety of analytical approaches that address the use of invertible counterpoint and related techniques within compositions.

Marking Scheme:

Analysis presentation:	15%
Paper presentation (based on final paper topic):	25%
Participation:	10%
Final paper:	50%
Course mark:	100%

Requirements. Students are required to provide two in-class presentations, one final paper, and participate by preparing assigned readings and engaging in class discussions.

Handing in Final Paper. The final paper will be handed in beneath the door of my office (TC-318) on Friday, April 17. Additionally, an electronic copy of the final paper will be uploaded to OWL on the same day (click on Assignments on the left-hand tab on the OWL site). Late submissions will not be accepted.

Readings. Readings are assigned on a weekly basis if not stated otherwise. See the Class Schedule for the complete list of readings (**N.B., the reading for the first class**). Students must read, prepare, and be able to discuss within class, each reading; failure to do so will negatively impact students' participation marks.

Plagiarism Software. 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. 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, <http://turnitin.uwo.ca/>.

OWL Powered by Sakai. Much of the course content (e.g., readings) is made available on OWL powered by Sakai. For more information, please visit this URL:
<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Marking Scale. The marking scale for all aspects of the course is A=80–100%, B=70–79%, C=60–69%, F=0–59%.

Health and Wellness. As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help students achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing a graduate degree. Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone in whom they feel comfortable confiding, such as a faculty supervisor, a program advisor, or the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies). Campus mental health resources may be found at <https://www.uwo.ca/health/crisis.html>.

Accessibility. For issues concerning accessibility on campus, please visit <http://www.accessibility.uwo.ca>.

Religious Accommodation. When scheduling of course requirements conflicts with religious holidays that require absence from the University or that prohibit or require certain activities on

the part of the student, the student will not be penalized for absence because of religious reasons. If a suitable arrangement involving a graduate course cannot be worked out between the student and instructor involved, they should consult the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies).

Accommodation for Medical Illness (adapted from the Senate policy on Accommodation for Illness – Undergrads at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

). The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by physical or mental illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The Graduate Program in Music further recognizes that physical or mental illness situations are deeply personal, and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. 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 his/her academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the office of the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), not to the course instructor. Students with special learning needs or other circumstances are asked to inform the instructor as soon as possible so that necessary accommodations can be considered.

Academic Offences. 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_grad.pdf.

Electronic Devices. The use within class of **any** electronic communications device for non-class-related activity is expressly prohibited. Students guilty of disrupting class with the described use of such devices will be asked to leave the class and will not be permitted to re-enter the class with the device until they can satisfactorily prove to the professor that the device will no longer be a disruption. Laptops, tablets, and other such devices are permitted in class if they are used solely for the enhancement of learning the material presented in class.

Music 9523b: Winter 2020 Class Schedule
(Topics and Readings subject to change as needed)

Class #	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Jan. 8	Foundations of Invertible Counterpoint	R1
2	Jan. 15	"	R2
3	Jan. 22	Invertible Counterpoint and Its Interaction with Tonal Theory *Deadline for analysis presentation topic	R3
4	Jan. 29	" Analysis presentations	R4
5	Feb. 5	" Analysis presentations (if necessary)	R5
6	Feb. 12	"	R6
	Feb. 19	Winter Reading Week: No Class	
7	Feb. 26	Invertible Counterpoint and Analysis *Deadline for final paper topic	R7
8	March 4	"	R8
9	March 11	"	R9
10	March 18	"	R10
11	March 25	Miscellaneous Topics Paper presentations (if necessary)	R11
12	April 1	" Paper presentations Last Class	R12
	April 17	Due date for final paper	