

Contemporary Music Studio

MUSIC 3976/9507

2024-25

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Description

The Contemporary Music Studio introduces students to solo and chamber music from 1925 to the present through the preparation, coaching, and performance of selected repertoire in classroom and concert settings.

Course Prerequisites

This course is open to graduate students as well as 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students in Performance. Other students may be admitted by permission of the course instructors and department chair. Entrance to the course is through audition.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Be introduced to chamber music repertoire from 1925-the present through the preparation and performance of representative and significant works, as well as improvisation.
- Learn about stylistic characteristics of music by international composers of contemporary music.
- Develop intellectual awareness of performance practice, and technical ability to solve performance practice issues of contemporary repertoire and improvisation
- Gain collaborative and leadership skills as a musician.
- Develop advanced pitch and harmonic awareness.
- Develop skills to successfully perform rhythmic complexities that are a vital component of this repertoire.

Course Structure

The primary focus of this course will be the study of chamber music repertoire written after 1925, including improvised works and new compositions. This study will be effected primarily through the preparation and performance of assigned repertoire presented in two concerts. The repertoire will be coached during the scheduled class times. Any students not scheduled for a coaching will rehearse assigned repertoire during class time as determined by the schedule. Schedules for coachings and rehearsals will be provided on an ongoing basis.

Course Evaluation:

Preparation of Repertoire, Leadership, Initiative: 28%
Concert I, Performance: 25%
Concert II, Performance: 25%
Listening and research assignment 12%
Attendance 10%

Preparation, Leadership/Initiative: It is the responsibility of the students to organize and conduct rehearsals of the assigned repertoire in preparation for class coachings. Knowing the score in preparation for rehearsals is an evident requirement. Students will also share responsibility for promoting the concerts and will provide information with regard to their efforts in this area. Examples of promotion include: creating a Facebook page announcing the concert, creating and posting flyers two weeks before the concert, emailing/texting a list of friends at least one week in advance of the concert, etc.

Performances: Students will be assessed on the quality of their preparation and performance both in the classroom setting and in the public concerts.

Listening and Research Assignment: Due Jan 20th at 1:30 in MB 227.
Hard copy only. Preferably typed.

CONCERT DATES

Concert I	Monday Dec. 2nd, 2024	7:30 pm	vKH
Dress rehearsal	Monday Dec. 2, 2024	2:30-6:00 pm	vKH
Concert II	Monday March 31 st , 2025	7:30 pm	vKH
Dress	Monday March 31 st , 2025	2:30-6:00 pm	vKH

Online Resources

Canadian Music Centre: www.musiccentre.ca

Personal websites of composers

www.composers21.com

Selected Bibliography

Performing Twentieth Century Music (A Handbook for Conductors); Weisberg, Arthur; Yale University Press; 1993

Modern Music And After (Directions since 1945); Griffiths, Paul; Oxford University Press; 1995

Modernism and Music: Albright, Daniel; U of Chicago Press: 2004

Musica mathematica; traditions and innovations in contemporary music; Povilionienė, Rima; PL Academic Research, 2016

The Rest is Noise; Listening to the Twentieth Century: Alex Ross, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, NY, 2017

Ear Training For Twentieth Century Music; Friedman, Michael L; Yale University Press; 1990

Sudden Music; Rothenberg, David; The University of Georgia Press; 2002
The New Music; Brindle, Reginald Smith; Oxford University Press; 1987
The Boulez-Cage Correspondence; ed. Nattiez,
Orientations: Pierre Boulez, ed. Nattiez; Faber and Faber, London; 1986
Experimental Music: Cage and Beyond; Nyman, Michael; Schirmer Books; 1974
Silence: lectures and writings; Cage, John; M.I.T. Press; 1966
Mind Models; Reynolds, Roger; Praeger Press; 1975
American Pioneers: Ives to Cage and Beyond; Rich, Alan; Phaidon Press; 1995
Improvisation its nature and practice in music; Bailey, Derek; Moorland Publishing; 1980
Treatise Handbook; Cardew, Cornelius; Edition Peters; 1971

Notes for Graduate Students Enrolled in the Course

Grading scale: A= 80-100%, B= 70-79%, C= 60-69%, F= 0-59%

Statement on 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

Statement on Health and Wellness

Students who are in emotional or mental distress should refer to [Health and Wellness](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement on Accommodation for Medical Illness (adapted from the Senate policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences–Undergraduates) at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

The Graduate Program in Music recognizes that a student's ability to fulfill academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by illness or injury. To ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's course grade shall be granted only in cases where there is documentation indicating that the student could not reasonably be expected to meet the 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.

Accessible Education Western

Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate program. Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with Accessible Education Western (AEW), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AEW and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These

accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.

Statement on 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.