

Graduate Percussion Ensemble Syllabus for 9754

Richard Burrows, Instructor of Percussion

Jamie Drake, Adam Campbell, Dan Morphy, TorQ Percussion Quartet, ensemble-in-residence
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IMPORTANT DATES: MANDATORY ATTENDANCE-

Wednesday November 20, 2023 Dress Rehearsal 6p-10p

Friday November 22, 2024 12:30p and 7:30p Concerts

Thursday March 13, 2024 Dress Rehearsal 6p-10p

Friday March 14, 2024 12:30p and 7:30p Concerts

Prerequisites: Satisfactory audition or permission of the instructor

Content: Through the preparation and performance of percussion ensemble repertoire, students will further develop their technical proficiency on a broad range of instruments, their musicality in a broad range of styles, their ability to balance and blend in an ensemble, and the teamwork necessary for successful rehearsals and concerts. Traditional and contemporary percussion ensemble literature as well as transcriptions and popular styles will be explored. Students are expected to have pencils, black towels for trap trays, appropriate mallets and sticks for their parts and any small instruments that will become part of their personal collection. Part assignments are based on ability, work ethic and experience.

Grading: All performances are mandatory especially given the one person per part nature of the repertoire. Missing a performance without justification will result in a Fail. Each member must be able to be counted on barring illness or other extraordinary circumstances. Preparation of parts, attitude, being set-up on time and helping move gear are all factors in grading. Attendance and preparation for all rehearsals is required.

Assessment is based on the following:

***Tone production/technique:** Development of full range of characteristic instrument sounds with ability to perform music of increasing complexity. There is a direct correlation between technique, tone production and tone quality.

***Interpersonal Skills- Communication:** good listener; doesn't criticize, condemn, or complain; tries to see things from the other person's point of view.

Relationship building working creatively with others, communicating clearly, and collaborating with others

***Musical Expression** Dynamics, Phrase, Style, Vocabulary

***Preparation.**

Grading considerations/Rubric

Graduate Grading Scale: A=80-100%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, F=00-59%

	A	B	C	F
<u>Technique/ Tone Quality</u>	Exemplary technique and tone quality	Good skill development but aware of problems. Evident effort	Slow progress, some awareness of sound quality but lack of understanding	Unaware of proper technique. Willful lack of desired sound quality.
<u>Accuracy/ Rhythm</u>	Rhythm, pitch, intonation and tempo are all solidly under control	General control but lacks maturity	Inaccuracies, not confident in basic areas of preparation	Many wrong rhythms/notes Inconsistent tempo
<u>Musicality/ Phrasing</u>	Dynamics, phrasing and style are maturely expressed.	Inconsistent attention to dynamics, phrase. Lacks stylistic understanding	Little attention to musical detail	Lack of dynamics or understanding of phrase
<u>Preparation Attitude/</u>	Excellent, consistent preparation	Effort is evident but lacks overall integrity	Inconsistent preparation, late, not set-up little direction	Lacks preparation

Senate Mandated Graduate Course Outline NOTES:

i) **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, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

ii) **Gender-Based and Sexual Violence:** Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website:

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.

iii) **Enrollment Restrictions:** Enrollment in this course is restricted to graduate students in Music.

iv) **Health and Wellness:** Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at <https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

v) **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.

vi) **Written Work and the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools/software/apps is not permitted in the written work for this course. 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://www.turnitin.com>).

vii) **Accommodation on Medical or Compassionate Grounds:** Western recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, at times, be impaired by medical illness or exceptional circumstances. Instructors will use good judgment and ensure fair treatment in determining how or if work missed in such cases will be accommodated. Whether medical documentation is required for work worth less than 10% of the final grade is at the discretion of the instructor (but, if required, this must be indicated on the course outline). If work missed because of medical or non-medical reasons is worth more than 10% of the final grade, documentation is required. Any documentation, when required, is processed through the Office of the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) and should be sent directly to this office, not to the instructor.

viii) **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Western accommodates students with disabilities, subject to not compromising the academic integrity of the course or program. Students seeking accommodation must contact Accessible Education (aew@uwo.ca), which provides recommendations based on disability documentation and other considerations. Reasonable academic accommodation is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and the instructor. All participants in the process must fulfil their respective obligations as set out in this Policy and the associated Procedures:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

ix) **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).

Further information can be found here:

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

x) **Scholastic Offences:** The University has a Scholastic Discipline policy that regulates procedures in the event that a graduate student is suspected of a scholastic offence, most commonly plagiarism or cheating, but also violations of research ethics. It is important to note that while the course instructor will likely investigate the offence, possibly meeting with the student to clarify the issue, it is the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) who, in consultation with the instructor, assesses penalties for scholastic offences in graduate courses. The Scholastic Discipline policy for graduate students may be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf
The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has developed a mandatory Academic Integrity Module that is designed to help students understand and abide by principles of academic integrity. Further information about this module can be found at: https://grad.uwo.ca/life_community/study/index.html
New doctoral students in Music are required to complete the TCPS 2: CORE-2022 (Course on Research Ethics) in their first term. Instructors are encouraged to complete CORE-2022 as well. It is free to access, and the modules can be completed over multiple sessions.

xi) **Grading Guidelines for Graduate Courses:** A=80-100%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, F=00-59%

Revised: August 2024