

2026-27 GRADUATE CHAMBER MUSIC

9566/9867

COURSE OUTLINE

COORDINATORS: Prof. Wiebe twiebe@uwo.ca & Prof. Hodgson ahodgson@uwo.ca

TAs: Deverson Santos de Sousa dsantosg@uwo.ca (Chamber Music course) & Churan

Feng cfeng68@uwo.ca (student composer concert)

This course is a required elective for certain Performance majors in both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. All other students are enrolled as needed in the chamber music program.

ADDING/DROPPING COURSE

Chamber Music as a Graduate Course

Last Day to add Chamber Music as a graduate course is **September 30, 2026.**

The Drop Deadline for Chamber Music as a graduate course is **October 30, 2026.**

Please register with the Performance Office (mpsdept@uwo.ca) should you need an add/drop form. Students taking this course should be registered for credit (regardless of degree requirements) unless special permission has been given by the Chair of Performance.

COMMUNICATION

Email is an essential form of communication used during this course for coaching and recital bookings. In addition, general information concerning chamber music administration will be posted [on OWL](#).

Respectful behaviour and communication between players in a group is required at all times. Any concerns should be brought to the group's coach as early as possible.

DESIRED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through their participation in this course, we wish for students to gain a deeper understanding of:

- Chamber music repertoire involving their instrument
- Meaningful ways to rehearse as a group, and prepare individually for their repertoire
- How to perform their repertoire

TIME COMMITMENT

1. Groups are required to rehearse at least twice per week, totaling two hours per week. Having two consecutive hours of rehearsal is strongly discouraged. It is far preferable to have two one-hour sessions at different times of the week.
2. Groups are required to attend a 50-minute weekly coaching.
3. Attendance is **required** at all rehearsals, coachings and evaluated performances.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All players are equals with different strengths and therefore respectful behavior and communication between players in a group is required at all times (see Addendum #5). If there are personal conduct concerns, please speak with the group's coach. See also Western Code of Conduct <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>

DESIGNATED GROUP MEMBER (DGM)

The chamber music coordinators will designate one student from each group to be responsible for administration details and to be the group's contact person for the chamber music coordinators, chamber music TA, student composer concert TA, and coach. Whatever the DGMs responsibilities, all the members of the group are equally important, and need to be actively and regularly involved in the administration of the group's activities. (DGM instructions, see Addendum #1)

EVALUATION

A. Coaching Sessions ----- 48%

Non-Student Composer Repertoire: 40% (Term 1 - 24%; Term 2 -16%)

Student Composer Repertoire: 8% (Term 2)

= 48%

B. Performances ----- 46%

Graded Recitals

Full-length Graded Recital: 46%

OR

Two half-length Graded Recitals: Term 1 - 23% + Term 2 - 23% = 46%

C. Participation in the November Showcase Concert ----- 3%

D. Participation in the Student Composer Concert ----- 3%

A. COACHING SESSIONS: Expectations & Evaluation

Following a successful audition, students are assigned to groups and coaches by Professors Hodgson and Wiebe, in consultation with the Performance Department Chair. Groups receive weekly coachings by the assigned faculty member for a total of twelve 50-minute coachings per semester.

Evaluation of the studio coaching sessions is based on each student's engaged ensemble participation and musical contribution. This involves the individual preparation necessary for the successful command of the repertoire. Evaluation also draws on the development of interpretive communication skills with colleagues during the year, along with the ability to execute concepts in a performance setting.

Reports & Grades: Coaches are solely responsible for the term reports and the final recital grade. Each student will be evaluated individually on a Progress Report issued at the end of term one. This mark is an unofficial progress report form for your coach. A Final Grade Report will be issued in April following the completion of **all** course requirements. This is the mark that will be entered in your transcript.

B. PERFORMANCES: Expectations & Evaluation

1. GRADED RECITALS

Coaches advise in the choice of repertoire and must give final approval to the programmed works for the Graded Recital. The coach's grade for the Graded Recital depends in part on the group's performance of all the repertoire the coach has approved in advance.

NOTE: Chamber ensembles formed for chamber music credit cannot be used for solo credit recitals. If chamber music is used on a solo (studio) recital, personnel and repertoire within the recital chamber ensemble must be a departure from the existing chamber music credit ensemble.

Option A (default option): A group performs one Graded Full Recital, consisting of approximately 40 - 50 minutes of music. The coach makes the final determination regarding the repertoire for the Graded Recital. The Graded Full Recital takes place in March of the second semester, during an allocated chamber music date.

OR

Option B (declared option): A group performs one Graded Half Recital, consisting of approximately 20-25 minutes of music per recital, in *each* semester. The coach makes the final determination regarding the repertoire for each Graded Recital. The Term 1 Graded Half Recital will take place in the latter part of late November or early December; the Term 2 Graded Half Recital will take place in March. Both Graded Half Recitals take place on allocated chamber music Graded Recital dates.

If a group has not declared itself to be Option B through a confirmation email by **Fri. Sept. 18, 5 p.m.**, (see Addendum, Graded Recitals), it is committed to the Option A Recital. *This is a binding commitment for the entire year.*

Recital Booking Process, Dress Rehearsals, & Programmes: see Addendum #2

Recital Deferrals: Please

consult <https://music.uwo.ca/performance/handbook/deferrals.html> under “Deferral of a Graded Chamber Music Recital” regarding the policy for deferring chamber music recitals. Please note that, while the Affected Student (the chamber music student whose illness/injury or circumstance requiring compassion are the grounds for their request to defer their Graded Chamber Music Recital) and Designated Group Member bear certain responsibilities described in the MPS handbook, in requesting and rescheduling a deferred Graded Chamber Music Recital, all group members need to communicate in a timely and responsible manner to facilitate any deferral request a group may make for a Graded Recital.

C. NOVEMBER CHAMBER MUSIC SHOWCASE / THE YOUNG-JA PARK CHAMBER MUSIC AWARD COMPETITION

Each group has a **maximum of 10 minutes total on stage**, including walking on and off, and time between movements. Their performance must feature some of their Fall Term repertoire, as chosen by their coach. There will be two Showcase concerts, scheduled as follows:

Dress Rehearsal: Nov. 18, 6-10 p.m. vKH

SHOWCASE #1: Nov. 24, 12:30-2 pm vKH

SHOWCASE #2: Nov. 26, 12:30-2 pm vKH

Participation in the student's Showcase Concert results in 3/3% of the student's grade and not participating results in 0/3%.

Coaches are not required to attend the Showcases or their Dress Rehearsal, should scheduling not permit. Students are normally required to stay for their entire recital to hear the other groups perform.

Concert and Dress Rehearsal Procedures & Competition Info: see Addendum #3

D. STUDENT COMPOSER CONCERT

Each group prepares a 6-8-minute work, written by a UWO student composer chosen by the instructor of the composition course, that is to be performed at an end-of-year concert. After the group receives the final scores and parts, the preparation of the student work is incorporated into

the group's weekly rehearsal/coaching schedule. 8% of your coaching grade consists of your work on the student composer work.

Student Composer Concert Mandatory dates:

Handover of Scores from TA to DGMs: Thursday, February 11, 2:50-3:20 P.M

Dress Rehearsal 1: March 27, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., vKH

Dress Rehearsal 2: April 3, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., vKH

Each group, with all its members, must attend an approximately 20-30-minute dress rehearsal within one of the above windows on March 27 or April 3.

Student Composer Concert: April 6, 7:30 p.m.-11 p.m., vKH

Participation in the Student Composer Concert results in 3/3 of the student's grade and not participating results in 0/3.

Student Composer Concert Procedure and Details: see Addendum #4

We hope that you enjoy your chamber music experience and wish you a successful year.

Profs. Wiebe and Hodgson

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC POLICIES

Enrolment Restrictions

Enrolment in this course is restricted to graduate students in Music, as well as any student who has obtained special permission from the course instructor as well as the Graduate Chair (or equivalent) from the student's home program.

Course Materials

Students are welcome to purchase desired sheet music if they choose.

Course Timeline and Format

Weekly Coachings (dates and times determined by group and coach)

One Showcase Concert (either Nov. 24 or Nov. 26)

Graded Recitals (Option A or Option B):

- Option A: One Graded Full Recital in March (date/time TBA)
- Option B: Two Graded Half Recitals (one in November/December) and one in March (dates/times TBA)

Student Composer Concert April 6

Method of Evaluation

Coachings (non-Student Composer repertoire) 38%

Coachings (Student Composer repertoire) 8%

Recital (One Full Recital or Two Half Recitals) 46%

Showcase Participation 3%

Student Composer Concert Participation 3%

TOTAL 100%

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

Health/Wellness Services

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

Accessible Education (AE)

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 (AE), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AE 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 (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 on the Wellness and Wellbeing website: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/gbsv/index.html>

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca