

Graduate Studio Pedagogy: Course Outline, Fall 2026

Course Information

Course number: 9702

Schedule and location: available on OWL

Instructor

Name: Aaron Hodgson Office: MB220 Email: ahodgson@uwo.ca Office hours: by appointment

Course description

This course explores studio teaching, specifically private and group music lessons. This course is for students on any instrument and with any level of teaching experience.

Graduate Course Learning outcomes

Students in the course will:

1. Build knowledge of studio pedagogy:
 - a. Develop familiarity with a broad range of literature on pedagogy, teaching and learning
 - b. Critically evaluate research and pedagogical materials that are scientific and non-scientific, scholarly and non-scholarly
2. Develop reflexive practice:
 - a. Relate course concepts back to the pedagogy of instruments they teach and perform
 - b. Develop reflexive skills and habits through observation and reflection
3. Build teaching practice:
 - a. Apply concepts from research literature to teaching practice
 - b. Build professional skills and a professional portfolio of materials

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

Readings will be available on OWL. A schedule and bibliography will be distributed for reference.

Methods of Evaluation

Unless otherwise indicated, assignments to be submitted by 9:30am via OWL. Full descriptions of all assignments can be found on OWL.

1. Participation

10%

Due: preliminary assessment will be distributed by Oct. 22, final assessment by Dec. 9

Brief description: participating in class discussion and activities is an essential component of this course.

- 2. Reflective journal** **30%**
Due: weekly (3% x 12 weeks, lowest 2 grades discarded)
Brief description: each week, a short reflective assignment will be posted on OWL. The content and format of these reflections will vary week-to-week.
- 3. Observation reflections** **30%**
Due: Friday, Sept. 25; Friday, Oct. 9; Friday, Oct. 30
Brief description: during the course of the semester, students observe 3 private or small group lessons (at least 1 of which must be outside a university setting and at least 1 of which must be not on their principal instrument) and write a short reflection about each one.
- 4. Video teaching project** **20%**
Due: Nov. 6 (video), Nov. 20 (peer feedback), Dec. 4 (final reflection)
Brief description: students will record a 30-minute video lesson, offer peer feedback in small groups, then write a short reflection.
- 5. Professional materials assignment** **10%**
Due: Wednesday, Dec. 9
Brief description: produce any 2 of the following materials: teaching philosophy, studio policy, classified ad, teaching resource list, teaching resume.

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

Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Except where noted, the use of generative AI on any assignments or projects in this course will be treated as a scholastic offense (see previous note on Academic Offences).