**Contemporary Music Studio**  
m3976y/9507y

Monday 1:30-3:20  
*N.B. There will be additional coaching sessions scheduled outside of class time as required*

Mb 27  
Mb 227

Instructor: Dr. John Hess  
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Office hours: Tuesday 12:30-1:30 or by appointment

Instructor: Prof. Dáirine Ní Mheadhra  
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Office hours: by appointment

**Description**  
The Contemporary Music Studio introduces solo and chamber music from 1945 to the present through the preparation, coaching, and performance of selected repertoire in classroom and concert settings.

**Prerequisites**

The course will be available to undergraduate Performance majors registered in third or fourth year as well as graduate students in Performance. Other students may be admitted by permission of the department chair. Students will be required to commit to regular weekly rehearsals outside the regularly scheduled class time. ATTENDANCE FOR THIS COURSE IS MANDATORY. Accommodation for documented medical absences will be considered for work worth less than 10% of the final mark. This will be completed in the last two classes of the final semester.

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will:

- Be introduced to repertoire from 1945-the present through the preparation and performance of representative and significant works.

- Develop a technical and intellectual awareness of performance practice issues related to the contemporary repertoire.

- Develop a rhythmic ability that will enable them to successfully address complex rhythmic issues that are a vital component of the repertoire.
Course Structure:

The primary focus of this course will be the study of chamber music repertoire written after 1945. This study will be effected primarily through the preparation and performance of assigned repertoire culminating in two concerts. This repertoire will be coached during the scheduled class time on Mondays at 1:30-3:20. Any students not scheduled for a coaching will be required to rehearse assigned repertoire during this class time.

Course Evaluation:

- Performance/Preparation of Chamber Ensemble Works: 45%
- Preparation/Performance of Special Project Repertoire: 25%
- Leadership/Initiative: 15%
- Attendance: 15%

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

The Special Project:
This project will afford students the opportunity to select and prepare a work for performance either on their own or in collaboration with 1-2 other students. The student(s) will prepare this piece for performance on their own and are expected to bring it to a high performance level. Each student or chamber group will receive one or two coachings on this piece prior to the presentation. The repertoire for this project must be finalized by October 9, 2017.

Leadership/Initiative:
It is the responsibility of the students to organize and conduct rehearsals of the assigned repertoire in preparation for class coachings. This activity will be recognized in the grade assignment. Students will also share responsibility for promoting the two concerts and will provide information with regard to their efforts in this area. Examples of promotion include: creating a Facebook page, creating a poster, emailing/texting a list of friends, etc.,

Significant Dates:

- Concert I: December 4, 2017
  8 pm, vKH
  dress rehearsal from 1:30-6:30

- Special Project: February 5 & 12, 2018
  In class presentation

- Concert II: April 9, 2018
  8 pm, vKH
  dress rehearsal from 1:30-6:30
Selected Bibliography:

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

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

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

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

Improvisation its nature and practice in music; Bailey, Derek; Moorland Publishing; 1980

Treatise Handbook; Cardew, Cornelius; Edition Peters; 1971

The Boulez-Cage Correspondence; ed. Nattiez, Jean-Jacques; Cambridge University Press; 1993
Electronic Devices

The use of mobile phones or other electronic communications device in class is prohibited. Please turn off your communications devices before entering the classroom.

Accommodation for Medical Illness

As of May 2008, the University has a new policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness, [www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf), which states that “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 appropriate Dean’s office...”

This policy can be found at [www.studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm](http://www.studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm).

Accommodation for documented medical absences will be considered for work worth less than 10% of the final mark. This work must be completed before the last day of classes in the Winter 2015 term.

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 [www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf).

Statement on Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for this course. If a student's attendance is considered inadequate by the instructor, the decision to bar the student from taking a written or oral examination or submitting an equivalent final project for grade assessment rests with the Dean, on the recommendation of the Department.

Statement on Mental Health

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western [http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.