

Participation: This seminar is primarily a chamber music skills class, and as such, your active participation in all facets of the course is crucial. Your participation in and preparation of class exercises and performance projects along with your ability to discuss the masterclasses that you witness will be evaluated on a continual basis. Topics for discussion will be posted on D2L following an observed masterclass. Participation marks will therefore be possible to earn in advance of the scheduled class discussion via D2L as well as in class. All students are asked to read the D2L discussion thread prior to any in-class discussion that takes place. In this way, the online discussion will be able to serve as a springboard for the in-person discussion.

Written Critiques: By February 11th and March 17th you will be required to record a run-through of a 4- to 6-minute portion of the repertoire being prepared by your ensemble and to write a written critique of that performance. The portion of your repertoire that you critique for March 17th need not be the same portion that you critiqued for February 11th. *Students playing in the same ensemble together must all write about the same 4- to 6-minute portion of recorded repertoire for February, and the same portion for March, but all students must submit separate, original critiques.*

By 5 p.m. on these due dates, you must submit your recording (audio or video), a copy of the appropriate portion of the score for the work *with measure numbers written in*, and a written critique of the performance outlining the areas in which the ensemble needs to work *and detailing rehearsal and/or individual practice methods that ought to be used to improve*. A separate handout elaborating on this assignment will be provided.

Audio CDs, video DVDs, or computer files readable by Quicktime, RealPlayer, Windows Media Player, or iTunes are all acceptable. Additionally, uploading privately to YouTube and providing me with a link is acceptable as well. Confirm any other means of submission prior to the due dates. Accommodations to provide recording devices when necessary can be made. Please notify me by the beginning of February if you will need to borrow a recording device to complete these assignments.

Repertoire Research Assignment: Finding appropriate chamber repertoire for instrumental combinations available to you can be a challenge. A separate handout will be provided detailing this assignment aimed at encouraging your exploration of web-based and traditional library resources for researching repertoire. This assignment will be due by February 4th at 5 p.m.

Rehearsal Reflections: One of the primary aims of the course is to provide you with a toolbox of rehearsal methods and an awareness of the need for constant vigilance regarding rehearsal and practice efficiency. Every time your ensemble rehearses, you should have a rehearsal plan ahead of time, be able to describe to what degree your rehearsal achieved the desired results, and to come up with ideas about how to improve on the work that was done. A separate handout will detail the requirements for this assignment. Four installments of this will be *due by 5 p.m.* on Jan 28th, Feb 18th, Mar 10th, and Mar 24th.

Late assignments: Late submissions will be accepted in documented cases of illness, bereavement, or other exceptional extenuating circumstances, but only with notification to me within 24 hours of the due date. In such cases, assignments will be accepted/rescheduled within a period of time reasonable to the circumstances (determined in consultation with the student). Assignments submitted late for any other reason will lose 10% per day to a maximum of 7 days, at which point the assignment will not be accepted.

Submission of assignments: I will accept paper copies of assignments or electronic ones submitted to me through the D2L dropbox or via e-mail. It is also perfectly reasonable to bring your assignment to me on a USB flash drive, though I may not be able to take the time to transfer your assignment to my computer immediately in order to return your USB drive to you then and there. Electronically submitted assignments will be returned electronically (via D2L or e-mail). *If you do not receive confirmation from me of my having received an e-mail submission, it is your responsibility to check with me to make sure that e-mail got to me and was seen.* Use a reasonable and informative subject line on your e-mails please!

D2L: In addition to the uses for D2L mentioned above, handouts and assignments will also be made available via D2L as well as in hard copy, of course, in class. Login to D2L at <https://online.mun.ca/> (or start at the Distance Education, Learning and Teaching Supports (DELTS) webpage at www.delts.mun.ca and click the “login to your web course” button).

A note on e-mail communication: Just so you know, I may use your MUN e-mail address to communicate important information to you and certainly to send reminders about things. *I do not use a smart phone for work though, and I am not constantly connected to my email.* I generally respond to business email several times a day, but often not in the evening. As mentioned above under “submission of assignments” please use informative subject lines for your e-mails and follow up on any messages that you send if you do not hear back within 2 days.

Word to the wise: Take notes during masterclasses. I will be, and we’ll discuss each masterclass that is followed by a seminar meeting and/or engage in an online (D2L) discussion thread about it. As indicated above, your participation in that discussion (live or online) will be evaluated and included in your participation grade.

Accommodations available: Students who require physical or academic accommodations should speak privately with me so that appropriate accommodations can be made to allow you to participate fully in the course. All conversations will remain confidential. Students requiring accommodation should also contact the Blundon Centre.