EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
MUSIC
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Music Department
FA / MUSI 4110 3.0 SECTION A
COMPOSITION STUDIO IV
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/23/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Offers a continuation of FA/MUSI 3110 3.00. Advanced work in composition, analysis and current music-theoretic ideas of relevance to the composer. Prerequisites: FA/MUSI 3110 3.00 or permission of the Instructor. Prior or concurrent courses in the theory and literature of 20th-century music are strongly recommended.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coghlan, Michael</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL FEATURES

Course Title: FA/MUSI 4110 6.0 (Y) Seminar in Composition IV

Term: Fall 2019

Course Instructor

Michael Coghlan
(416) 736-2100 ext. 77437
ACE 357
mcoghlan@yorku.ca

Time and Location

Seminar Sessions: 2:30 PM Tuesdays Fall Term 2019
Consultations/Individual Coaching: 10:30 AM - 11:30 PM Tuesdays and post class
Other times by appointment/phone/e-mail/Skype.

Basic Course Description

Lectures, seminars, individual coaching in music composition considering issues related to craft, process, creativity, technique, theory, and career strategy.

Expanded Course Description

This course deals with aesthetic, theoretical, conceptual, creative, and practical considerations involved in music composition. The delivery format involves seminar, invited guests, shared discussion, group analysis, individual research, and specific assignments. The seminars are regularly supplemented by numerous suggestions for additional research readings, listening examples, analysis graphs, music texts (scores, charts,
lead sheets, fake book sketches, parts), recordings, plus the ever-expanding resources found on-line (performances, lectures, articles, etc.) A fuller understanding of the nature of the individual's unique compositional voice is a fundamental focus and an essential concept of the seminar. The candidate is encouraged and supported in developing professional level skills in the creation of original music which reflects their original artistic vision.

Course Learning Objectives

(1) Statement of the purpose:
This course assists aspiring composers in developing a personal, critical overview and practical understanding of the creative art and craft of music composition while developing an astute awareness of the complex nature of the contemporary musical world. The ability to fully embrace the benefits of personal review and analysis is a crucial component of the overall course philosophy.

(2) Learning objectives:
This course will support individual growth and development through:
• creating a deeper appreciation of their own compositional process and product
• improving knowledge of varied repertories and traditions
• a better understanding of instrumentation and specifics of instrument ranges
• a deeper appreciation of the importance of presentation and organization of musical content
• an appreciation of the complexities of notation, recording, performance
• supporting a greater understanding of the history and development of composition

The specific objectives of the course include the ability to:
• critically examine and understand the art and nature of music composition
• embrace varied creative techniques and methodologies
• understand recent developments for self-promotion
• demonstrate the ability to "present product"
• develop ability to discuss and analyze personal aesthetics and positioning
• embrace opportunities to improve individual learning styles and self-education
• be responsible for, and dedicated to, self-investment and personal success
• understand form, style, feel, groove, mood, swing, flow, organic development
• display an independent, mature and professional approach to the discipline
• pursue and develop a tradition of personal excellence within the larger discipline of music

Course "Texts" and Sonic Resources

Recordings, printed scores, videos, texts, paintings, architectural structures, movies, poems, online resources, live presentations, etc. chosen from various sources will be presented, reviewed, discussed, referenced, mentioned, and recommended during the seminar sessions. Suggested repertoire following is selected from various traditions and in a variety of ensemble formats including choral, solo voice with piano, keyboard, orchestral, band, chamber, etc., etc. Popular, jazz, world, and classical materials will be considered as relevant sources and specific examples may be suggested as especially relevant to certain individuals based on their proposals and compositional approach. Students are expected to access materials and information from on-line sources such as web-based videos, tutorials, blogs, commercial advertising sites, rating charts, music libraries, etc. An integral part of the course will involve the consideration of music by composers, performers, and scholars such as: Francesco Landini, Josquin Des Prez, Johannes Ockeghem, Guillaume Dufay, J. S. Bach, Richard Rogers, Igor Strawinski, Claude Debussy, Jerry Goldsmith, Bela Bartok, Tom Waits, Ann Southam, John Adams, Maurice Ravel, G. F. Handel, Anton Bruckner, Richard Strauss, Henry Mancini, Olivier Messiaen, Stan Rogers, Alban Berg, Cole Porter, Heinrich Schenker, Hans Zimmer, Bill Evans, Pierre Boulez, Erik Satie, Lee Wiley, Gordon Sumner, Sammy Nestico, Ottorino Respighi, Alban Berg, Dave Grusin, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Miles Davis, Nina Simone, Philip Glass, Paul Hindemith, Elmer Bernstein, John Corigliano, Frederico Mompou, Max Steiner, John Williams, Ian Tyson, Arvo Pärt, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Joni Mitchell, John Tavener, Adelle, Camilla, and Mr. Nobody, among many, many others. Examples will also be selected from cultural and historical traditions such as Japanese koto repertoire, Balkan vocal styles, Tuvan "overtone" choirs, traditional Celtic monodic airs, Usonian Gospel Anthems, Gregorian chant, jazz, etc., as well as sundry contemporary artists.
**Evaluation:** Grade for the course will be based on "areas" weighted as indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Weightage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Composition Production</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis Assignment</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Defined Project</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** No specific requirements.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR Students**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the York website and online resources and information relating to a variety of topics specific to the academic culture of York University. Information relating to degrees requirements, petitions, term dates, etc. is available on line. In addition, the following topics are also essential.

- **Academic Honesty and Integrity**
- **Accessibility/Disability Services**
- **Ethics Review Process:** York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants at [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=94](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=94). In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately.
- **Religious Observance Accommodation:** Further information available at [https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs](https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs).

---

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

**Moodle @ York University**