

SCHOOL OF FINE ART & MUSIC
Winter Semester 2015
MUSC*3880-01



TOPICS IN MUSIC PEDAGOGY
TOPIC: Self-reflective teaching-and-learning in music

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Marta McCarthy
TIME: Tuesday & Thursday; 10:00 – 11:20am
LOCATION: MacKinnon, Room 203
OFFICE: Johnston Hall, Room 124
PHONE: Extension 54377
E-MAIL: mmccarth@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00pm

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course examines current philosophical trends in music education, and the application of various theories of music learning. Students will be asked to process conflicting ideas as presented through reading, class discussion, and their own experience as learners. There is also a practical component, in which each student will conduct an ensemble or give a series of private lessons, as well as present a collaborative teaching assignment. The course is designed to prepare music students to teach privately or in a classroom.

Prerequisite(s): 9.00 credits, including MUSC*2180, MUSC*2670

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The term pedagogy embraces the principles and practice of teaching-and-learning. Music pedagogy is a controversial human endeavour involving issues of power, ethics, and aesthetics, as well as the many practical concerns that occupy the minds of teachers and students. This course examines current philosophical trends in music education, and the application of various theories of music learning. Students will be asked to process conflicting ideas as presented through readings, class discussion, and their own experience as learners. The course addresses private/studio teaching as well as classroom teaching, rehearsing and conducting, and will be useful for anyone planning to teach music.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

- *Stimulating students to challenge assumptions and to ask philosophical questions about music education.
- *Helping students to develop a broad knowledge base about current issues facing music educators in the 21st century.
- *Providing students with strategies, resources, and contacts to support their practice as music teachers.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- distinguish the major schools of thought regarding music education
- analyze potential problems in teaching approaches and generate alternative solutions
- apply learning theories to solving real-life problems in the classroom or learning venue
- design effective lesson plans for music teaching and learning situations
- monitor and reflect on their progress as communicators, hypothesize reasons for miscommunications, and revise teaching strategies in response to these hypotheses
- make independent decisions in the leadership of an ensemble or class, based on the development of critical thinking, and sensitivity to the receiver of the communication.
- conduct action research in music education

REQUIRED TEXT:

- Required Readings on reserve in the Library
- Video cassette (VHS) or Digital disc for self-evaluation of teaching episodes
- Membership in Ontario Music Educators Association or related professional association (Instructor will help to arrange this for you in the first class).

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Participation -----	20%
(Involvement in class, preparedness, thoughtful analysis of readings and lectures, self- and peer- evaluations, analysis homework, collaborative work, online discussions)	
Written Reflection papers (3) -----	15%
Teaching Presentation (group presentation) -----	15%
Teaching Assignment (private lessons OR rehearsing and conducting) -----	25%
Final Research Essay (Due: April 6, 2015) -----	25%