



HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
LONDON, CANADA
Department of Psychology
2022-2023

Psychology 3760F
Special Topics in Psychology
Music Cognition

1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

<u>INSTRUCTOR:</u>	Dr. Stephen Van Hedger
<u>EMAIL:</u>	svanhedg@uwo.ca
<u>OFFICE HOURS:</u>	Thursdays 11:30am – 12:30pm, HC-V118
<u>CLASS TIME / LOCATION:</u>	T/Th 9:30 - 11:30am, HC-V107
<u>DETAILS:</u>	4 lecture hours, 0.5 course
<u>ANTIREQUISITE(S):</u>	None
<u>PREREQUISITE(S):</u>	Registration in third- or fourth-year Honours Specialization in Psychology or permission of the department

2.0 COURSE DESCRIPTION

Music, like language, is a universal phenomenon, found in every known culture. Yet, the scientific study of music is still in its infancy. While some prominent cognitive scientists have dismissed music as epiphenomenal, having no real consequence for how the human mind has evolved, this does not mean that music – as a complex, naturalistic system – cannot teach us about fundamental aspects of cognition. Indeed, recent research in the field of music psychology has contributed to our basic understanding of how we perceive and understand the world, informing broad topics such as skill acquisition, learning, memory, emotion, and experience-dependent plasticity (to name a few). Throughout this course, we will examine how the scientific study of the musical mind is important for understanding fundamental psychological processes.

3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should:

- Develop an appreciation of both empirical and theoretical work in music cognition
- Situate any weekly topic in a larger psychological context, as well as understand the extent to which music offers a unique window into understanding a specific psychological construct
- Refine critical thinking skills and evaluation of psychological experiments, arguments, and practices
- Refine knowledge mobilization and science communication skills

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

The course meets in-person every Tuesday and Thursday (9:30-11:30am, HC-V107). Each class will be devoted to discussing 1-2 assigned readings. Active participation is a critical component of this course, so please be sure to come to class prepared (i.e., having read the article(s) and coming up with at least two questions for the discussion).

Content is structured around **four themes**, with each theme covering three weeks of the semester. The first two themes (Foundations, Perception and Cognition) provide a background in auditory science and core musical constructs, whereas the final two themes (Musical Development, Musical Meaning) apply this foundation to different topics. For the first two themes, short explanatory videos will be uploaded to OWL to help orient you to some of the terminology (e.g., What do we mean by pitch? What do we mean by rhythm?) These videos can be viewed asynchronously.

Over the course of the semester, each student will be responsible for leading the discussion one week and serving as the “principal discussant” a different week. When it is your week to lead discussion, your responsibilities include (1) preparing a discussion outline, and (2) developing extra discussion questions and possible activities (e.g., in-class demonstrations). When it is your week to serve as the “principal discussant,” you will read the assigned materials extra closely, contribute to the discussion significantly, and “jump in” with thoughts when there are lulls in the discussion. Discussion leader and principal discussant roles will be assigned the first day of class.

5.0 TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER REQUIRED RESOURCES

There are no required textbooks for this course. The readings for the course primarily take the form of peer-reviewed journal articles and each reading will be posted to OWL.

6.0 METHOD OF EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT

The grade breakdown and important dates in the course are noted in the table below. A description of each of the assessments with detailed guidelines and expectations is posted to OWL.

Assessment	Weighting	Due Date
<u>Reading Assessments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Leader • Principal Discussant 	30% (15% for Discussion Leader; 15% for Principal Discussant)	Over the duration of the course (assigned in the first week of classes)
<u>Literature Review</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotated Bibliography • Knowledge Mobilization (KM) Component 	35% (20% for Annotated Bibliography; 15% for KM Component)	Annotated Bibliography due November 30; KM Component due November 10
<u>Critical Reflections</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start-of-term reflection • End-of-term reflection 	20% (10% per reflection)	Start-of-term reflection due September 30; End-of-term reflection due December 8
<u>Participation Assessment</u>	15%	Self Assessment due December 1

Statement Regarding Grades in Psychology Courses at Huron University College

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 75-79 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 3000-level Psychology course. Grades in the A (80-90%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the third or fourth-year

standard associated with the Major or Minor modules. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded rarely and only for work that is exceptional.

8.0 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

DATE	TOPIC*
Module 1: Foundations	
Week 1 (Sep 8)	Introduction
Week 2 (Sep 13/15)	Auditory Perception
Week 3 (Sep 20/22)	Music-Language Links**
Module 2: Perception and Cognition	
Week 4 (Sep 27/29)	Musical Pitch and Melody**
Week 5 (Oct 4/6)	Musical Timing**
Week 6 (Oct 11/13)	Musical Structures**
Module 3: Musical Development	
Week 7 (Oct 18/20)	Infant Development**
Week 8 (Oct 25/27)	Childhood Development**
Week 9 (Nov 1/3)	NO CLASSES – FALL READING WEEK
Week 10 (Nov 8/10)	Practice and Expertise**
Module 4: Musical Meaning	
Week 11 (Nov 15/17)	Meaning and Music**
Week 12 (Nov 22/24)	Emotion and Music**
Week 13 (Nov 29/Dec 1)	Culture and Music**
Week 14 (Dec 6)	Wrap-Up: Is Music “Auditory Cheesecake?”
Exam Period	NA

**Note: You will be responsible for reading 1-2 papers relevant to the course topics each class. These papers will be uploaded to the OWL site under the appropriate module and week.*

***Denotes weeks in which you will be able to sign up for the roles of Discussion Leader or Principal Discussant*

Statement Regarding Academic Accommodation in Psychology at Huron University College

In the Department of Psychology at Huron, courses are structured to allow students as much flexibility as possible. In the event of an acute medical illness or other personal emergency, students must request academic consideration as per Western Academic Senate Policy. The instructor must indicate on the course outline how accommodations are granted and arranged.

Student requests for academic consideration/accommodation for missed work must be submitted in a timely manner, typically no more than 48 hours after the missed evaluation. Requests submitted more than 48 hours after the missed evaluation will normally require a formal recommendation from an Academic Advisor.

For missed coursework worth less than 10% of the overall grade in a course, students should contact the instructor in writing as soon as possible to arrange for accommodation. In cases where accommodation is granted, the instructor will inform the student in writing what accommodation will be granted (e.g. makeup test, reweighting missed evaluation, accept late assignment).

For missed coursework worth 10% or more of the overall grade in a course, students must contact their home faculty Academic Advising office with appropriate documentation (at Huron, this is Huron's Academic Advising Office; if you are a student at a different campus, contact your academic advisor at your home campus).

In the Department of Psychology, if accommodation is granted, students will typically be granted an extension of 48 hours for written essays and reports from the time when accommodation is granted in writing, unless otherwise discussed with the course instructor. The typical accommodation for missed tests will be reweighting of the course grade, unless otherwise discussed with the course instructor. Instructors may request further documentation to approve accommodations.

Students should refer to the following for more information regarding academic consideration and accommodation:

Western Senate Policy regarding Accommodation for Medical Illness

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Huron Academic Advising

<https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/faq/>



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022

Pandemic Contingency

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

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, at the following website: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

- (a) Consideration on **Medical Grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade:
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at

huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/> Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1> Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services:

huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca Community

Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)