

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE –Winter 2023

MU2091 (A3): Electronic Notation – 3 (1-0-2) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Geoffrey Whittall **PHONE:** 780-539-2823
OFFICE: L-119 **E-MAIL:** gwhittall@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS: As posted on my office door and by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will develop familiarity and skills with music notation software to allow students to present their works professionally in hard copy. Concepts and practices of engraving will be discussed.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: MU1000 or successful completion of a music theory placement exam or Royal Conservatory Level 8 Theory, Conservatory Canada Gr. 4.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- **MYCLASS:** You will need to access our MYCLASS page at <https://myclass.gprc.ab.ca> where you will be able to access a variety of necessary resources.
- Notebook.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Lab. Note: NWP reserves the right to change the course delivery.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: MU2091 is designed to give you functional skills using current software (Finale 27) to create printable scores for a variety of instruments; it is not intended to be a complete explanation of Finale. The online manual prints out to two large binders full of paper; this would be impossible to cover in a single course. Nor does this course attempt to completely cover the art of music engraving; that would be an entire additional course. Rather, the goal of this course is to provide you with the skills to be able to perform many of the most common tasks necessary for copying/engraving, and to become comfortable working within the Finale environment. Lectures and assignments will introduce you to many of Finale's tools, and teach you how to use them efficiently. Part of working with electronic

notation is that you will also learn about notation in a general sense, and become familiar with aspects of it that may not relate directly to the instrument(s) that you play and use to perform.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to create new scores, control page setup and layout (including measurement units such as EVPUs, page turns, etc.), control transposing instruments, and utilize a number of note entry techniques (simple, speedy, and hyperscribe), guitar tab, chord symbols (including creating new symbols), utilize cross staff writing, and lyrics. Students will be able to import MIDI files, recognize and use a wide variety of articulations that may not be native to their personal instruments, use smart shapes (dynamics, slurs, etc.), control score and parts preparation and editing, key and meter changes, and repeats (including mid-measure repeats, multiple endings, and segnos/codas). Students will have be able to use aspects of percussion notation, measure appearance and spacing, music spacing (beats and measures per system), score appearance (zooms, margins, portrait and landscape layouts, hiding staves, etc.), creation of expressions and shapes, graphics import and export, orchestral score considerations, staff sets and lists, application and creation of staff styles, transposition, tuplets, copying and pasting (including multiple paste and drag techniques), grace notes, and accidentals (including courtesy accidentals, hiding, spacing, and more). Students will be able to work effectively and know efficient techniques to work under time constraints, including palette placement, score creation order, entry, editing, and meta-tool creation and use. Students will be experienced at printing to paper and PDF, tempo markings, measure numbers, using resources (including the help manual, tutorials, videos, the Finale Tips site, etc.) page numbers and other multi-page markings, clefs, arranging tools (including collapsing, piano reduction, expand, etc.), using plug ins, layers, stem direction, numerous special tools (e.g. beam angle, dot spacing, etc.), font choices, human playback, and the score manager. Students will be able to use and control Audio Units, smartsynth sounds, and other factors connected to playback and recording, page-scroll-studio views, template creation, and groups and brackets. Students will be able to explain several norms of music publishing and printing, visual expectations of music readers, and more.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferralberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Assignments	85%
Final Project	15%

Assignments will not be accepted late unless you negotiate the extension well in advance of the due date. This course is not only about being able to navigate your way through Finale, but also to use it efficiently. Engravers/copyists often work under tight deadlines. You will always have what I feel to be ample time to complete your assignments, but you will need to manage your time carefully, and ask for help as soon as you recognize that you need it.

Assignments will be submitted by email; you will not need to print out your assignments.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: The final project will be due by 11:59PM on April 20.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attendance at all class sessions is highly recommended. *Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, on pages 47-48 of the NWP Polytechnic Calendar.*
- You should become familiar with pages 36-47 of the *NWP 2022-2023 Calendar*, along with Polytechnic policies about academics and student responsibilities.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.