

Guidelines for Applied Study Classes
Effective July 1, 2007 (Revised December 2020)

I. Performance concentration

- Students in the B.Mus. program will share a common curriculum in the 1st and 2nd years of study.
- Beginning in the 3rd year, students have the option of continuing in the general B.Mus. program or choosing an area of concentration: Musicology, Composition, Popular Musics, or Performance.
- Students demonstrating a high level of performance ability, after consultation with their instructor, may apply to audition for the Performance concentration and/or for the new concentration in Popular Musics, if they wish to pursue the new applied stream.
- These Auditions will take place in the winter term, normally the day after classes finish, before a panel of full-time applied instructors from various idioms. Repertoire to be performed may include jury material and should reflect a variety of styles and periods, illustrating a high level of ability in performance.

II. Grade scale

- The University grade scale must be used for all classes. Please see “Suggested Marking Guidelines” in this document.

III. Audition dates:

- Concerto Night: Students wishing to perform on Concerto Night must audition before the Concerto Night Audition panel. Audition dates and application deadline to be announced in the fall. Audition applications are normally due by October 15.
- Opera: Auditions for Opera take place each fall normally the first Friday of the fall semester.
- Performance concentration: Auditions for B.Mus. students finishing their second common year of study will be held on April 7, 2020. Repertoire may be excerpted from Fall or Winter jury material.
- Popular Musics concentration: TBA
- Half-Recitals: Auditions for non-Performance stream students finishing their third year of study performing at a high performance level, and wishing to select a half-recital as part of their graduation requirement, or 3199 (half-recital) as an elective, will also be held normally on the day after classes finish in Winter term.

Repertoire Requirements for Juries and Recitals

1. All solo works of music must be performed from memory. Requests for exceptions must be made by the instructor to the FSPA Director.
2. Repertoire requirements are generally idiom-specific and at the discretion of the instructor. Each area instructor should define these requirements in their individual **Method of Assessment**. Please note that repertoire in the Performance concentration applied study in the 3rd and 4th years should be of an appropriate level of difficulty.
3. a) MUSC 3199 (Performance or elective) and half-recital for grad project: This half-recital will consist of 30 to 45 minutes of music and must be approved in writing by the instructor. Students must prepare a typed program (preferably electronic version), including timings, and submit this to the instructor for approval. Once approved, the instructor will file a copy of the program with the FSPA Director by March 15 (prior to April recital).

b) MUSC 4199: This Performance concentration full recital must consist of 55 to 75 minutes of music and must be approved in writing by the instructor. Students must prepare a typed program (preferably electronic version), including timings, and submit this to the instructor for approval. Once approved, the instructor will file a copy of the approved repertoire with the FSPA Director by March 15 (prior to April recital).

Grading Methods

1. Please see attached **“Suggested Marking Guidelines”**.
2. Consistent term/jury percentages throughout the applied studios:
 - a) For all 1st and 2nd year students, and 3rd and 4th year students who are not doing a winter term recital.

FALL	Jury	40%
	Studio	60%

December grades are FINAL grades. There are no more full-year classes.

WINTER:	Jury	40%
	Studio	60%

- b) For all 3rd and 4th year students who are doing a winter term recital as part of their degree requirement:

WINTER:	Studio	100%
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The Method of Assessment should outline how the studio grade is determined and may include:

- Attendance, attitude, incorporation of suggestions, development from week to week, degree of preparedness all according to the year of study
- Attendance at idiom-specific concerts and masterclasses, including Concerto Night, Opera and Dalhousie Chamber concerts, as outlined in Method of Assessment
- Other requirements specific to each studio

Suggested Marking Guidelines

Please note: A higher standard of performance is expected from students enrolled in the Performance concentration - See BMus Applied Standards Chart attached.

1. **A+ 90 and above:** should be very rare indeed and are indicated only when the standard of excellence is extremely high, the performer so extraordinarily talented, that one ceases to hear the performance as an exam. In other words, reserve this category for truly outstanding performances
2. **Marks in the A- and A range should be for our very best students and not easily attained.**
 - A 85 – 89:** should be given for excellent performances that are consistently polished and significantly imaginative
 - A- 80 to 84** should represent an excellent and polished performance
3. **B+ 77 – 79** should be used for good performances that are well prepared, show some imagination illustrating an understanding of the repertoire, but lack a consistent polish and power of communication (*Note: B+ is minimum acceptable grade for Year III Performance Applied Study and Third Year Recital (3199) – see Chart*)
 - B 73 -76** should be used for a good but unremarkable performance
 - B- 70 – 72** evidence of preparation and technical development but a weak performance (*Note: B- is minimum acceptable grade for Year IV Performance Concentration Applied Study and Fourth Year Recital (4199) – see Chart*)
4. Marks in the “**C and C+**” range indicate problematic performances and do not meet the required standards for the BMus Performance concentration.
 - C+ 65 – 69** satisfactory for credit in BMus (non-Performance – see Chart) but indicates a performance that is technically problematic or unpolished
 - C 60 – 64** satisfactory for credit in BMus (non-Performance - see Chart), but is a very weak performance and academic advising strongly advised
5. **C- 55 – 59** problematic performance, satisfactory for credit but does not meet standard to proceed to next level (see Chart)
6. **D 50 – 54** indicates a performance illustrating a scant knowledge of the material. Marginal pass however does not meet standard to proceed to next level (see Chart).
7. **F below 50** stiff, inadequate performance, unprepared, full of mistakes, is a failing mark

PLEASE NOTE:

The Jury/Recital mark should reflect only what is heard at the time of the performance.

The teacher’s Studio mark reflects progress, attitude, hard work etc.

APPLIED STUDY STANDARDS CHART
Bachelor of Music Program

Year	Area of Concentration	Class	Minimum Grade
I	N/A	Fall: MUSC 1801.03: Applied Study 1a Winter: MUSC 1802.03: Applied Study 2a	C (EXCEPT those BMus students preparing for Performance who must achieve a B+)
II	N/A	Fall: MUSC 2801.03: Applied Study 1a Winter: MUSC 2802.03: Applied Study 1b	C (EXCEPT those students preparing for Performance who must achieve a B+)
III	a) Performance b) All others (non-performance)	Fall: MUSC 3811.03: Applied Study (Performance) 1a Winter: MUSC 3812.03: Applied Study (Performance) 1b Third Year Recital 3199 Applied Study 3a and 3b	B+ B+ C
IV	a) Performance b) All others (non-Performance) c) General	Fall: MUSC 4811.03: Applied Study (Performance) 1a Winter: MUSC 4812.03: Applied Study (Performance) 1b Fourth Year Recital 4199 Applied Study 4a and 4b Graduation Project 4599 <i>(Note: students may choose a performance option within this requirement, permissible by audition)</i>	B- B- C B-