

Applied Music: Organ Studio and/or Harpsichord Studio

Dr. Miriam Zach

Iowa State University, Spring 2022

Meeting time and place: lessons arranged individually

Credit hours: 1 or 2

Professor Dr. Miriam Zach, Charles and Mary Sukup Endowed Artist in Organ

E-mail: minerva@iastate.edu

Office: Music 210 — Office Hours: by appointment via email

Prerequisites: audition

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

We will explore organ and/or harpsichord repertoire from Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic, 20th- and 21st centuries Western historical style periods, hymnody, sight-reading, acoustics, pipe organ and harpsichord construction and maintenance.

Activities include

Being the music you are imagining, listening actively, daily playing an organ or harpsichord, reading, researching, asking questions, writing, creating, exploring, reviewing, critiquing, presenting, developing your corpus callosum.

Valued are

effort, curiosity, teamwork, participation, preparedness, communication skills (ability to listen actively, speak, read, write, **be** the music), considering Obstacles as Creative Opportunities

Technique

Accuracy of notes in manuals and pedal; Evenness, clarity, and control of touch;
Manual and pedal coordination

Interpretation

Projection of musical character and structure; Facility and appropriateness of registration;
Stage presence and poise.

Educational Goals include

Creative Thinking skills: Ability to raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider the same set of data from various points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test alternative outcomes against relevant criteria and standards.

Global Cultural Diversity: Understanding of diverse values, and music within cultural and historical context.

Collaboration: Ability to work together with other people.

At the end of the semester you will be asked to complete a **Performance Course Report** including the following information:

performed in studio class; ** performed in church service; *** performed in concert;
memorized

Compositions begun and completed this semester

Compositions begun in a previous semester and completed

Compositions as yet unfinished

Technical studies

REQUIRED

Davis, Roger E. *The Organist's Manual* (ISBN 0-393-95461-7) New York: W.W. Norton, 1985 (www.wwnorton.com) This book includes manual and pedal technique, interpretation, compositions, hymnody, and organ building.

Organ Master shoes are available from [http:// store.organmastershoes.com/](http://store.organmastershoes.com/)

Schott, Howard. *Playing the Harpsichord*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1979. (ISBN 0-312-61636-8)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

There are many resources including scores, books, and recordings available online and in Parks Library <http://www.lib.iastate.edu/>

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

The final grade takes into account your creative effort based on the following assignments. Possible points are in (). Complexity of repertoire depends on a student's experience playing the pipe organ or harpsichord. "Advanced" is recommended for more experienced organists/harpsichordists.

Caveat: Procedures are accurate as of January 18, 2022 but subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Creative Experiences and Performance Opportunities in Spring 2022:

Organ Studio: weekly on Fridays (3:10-4pm) at St. John's Episcopal Church, 2338 Lincoln Way, Ames

Sunday, February 6 (2pm) Central Iowa American Guild of Organists (CIAGO)

Hauptwerk, Lent & Easter repertoire sharing at the home of Dr. Stephen Smith, Polk City

Thursday, February 24 (11-11:50am) on MET stage - **build small pipe organ** "Orgelkids USA" (fondly dubbed Piper) designed in the Netherlands, constructed in Oregon, and on loan to ISU from CIAGO during Spring 2022

Saturday, February 26 (1:30pm) MET - **26th International Festival of Women Composers concert** - email composer, title, length, and show me the score by February 1 for possible inclusion to minerva@iastate.edu

Saturday, April 23, 2022 (1:30pm) **ISU Organ Studio Recital "Going Dutch + Belgian + Luxembourgian"**

Organ / Harpsichord Solo Repertoire

Prepare, perform, and record at least four (4) 3-5minute organ or harpsichord solos manuals+pedals from different historical style periods representative of each style period. (4 solos from different style periods x 40 points each = 160 possible points)

Here are Western music historical style periods. (AD=Anno Domini on the Gregorian calendar.)

Medieval 0-1400 AD

Renaissance 1400-1600

Baroque 1600-1750

Classical 1750-1800

Romantic 1800-1900

French Impressionism 1874-1915

20th century 1900-2000

21st century 2000 to present

Be able to research and write program notes (20 possible points)

on composers' lives and works within historical context, respecting coherence, grammar, punctuation, and usage of standard written English. (Advanced analysis: When presented with a printed composition OR listening to a musical excerpt, identify country of origin, composer, title, historical style period, genre, language, medium, style characteristics, e.g., harmonic and contrapuntal texture, form).

Pipe organ / harpsichord construction and maintenance. (20 points)

Hymnody (each hymn 10 points x 6 hymns= 60 possible points)

Be able to trace the history and literature of hymns, texts and music, for example, a Baroque chorale prelude by Buxtehude or J.S. Bach. Be able to select hymns for the church year, e.g. Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and for Life Events, e.g. Weddings, and Memorial services. Prepare and perform six hymns during the semester each with introductory chorale prelude, pedals, sensitivity to text, choice of registration, and awareness of the effect of acoustic environments on accompanying congregational singing. (Advanced: Improvise, modulate)

Sight-read

(4 sight-reading passages x 10 points each = 40 possible points)

two short passages of organ music on three staves maintaining a steady tempo with accuracy of notes and rhythm

(Advanced: Be able to play at sight a passage of music in open score on four staves using G and F clefs)

(Advanced: Play the continuo part of a chorale or short instrumental movement from a figured bass, given the melody, bass and figures.)

300 Total Possible Points

GRADING CHART

A You attend class regularly and contribute positively. All assignments are turned in on time, complete, accurate in content, and presented in a professional manner. Combined grade average on assignments and class presentations is A or close to it.

B You complete all required assignments but one or more of the following may apply: (1) assigned work is mostly but not consistently thorough, accurate, or of high quality, (2) attendance and class involvement is inconsistent.

C You complete most of the required assignments but one or more of the following may apply: (1) the quality of the work is generally marginal, and (2) attendance and class participation is irregular.

D One or more of the following may apply: (1) all assignments are not completed or are of mostly poor quality, (2) attendance and class participation is poor.

F Most course requirements are NOT met satisfactorily.

A 279-300 A- 270-278 B+ 261-269 B 249-260 B- 240-248 C+231-239 C 219-230

C- 210-218 D+201-209 D 189-200 D- 180-188 F 0-179

ATTENDANCE

Carpe diem, be here now, mindful and respectful of those around you. Objectives will be met by actively participating in each lesson or performance at agreed-upon lesson or performance times. Although ISU Music Hall is scheduled to be open in Spring 2022 for classes to be in-person on campus in the MET or practice rooms, Spring 2022 lessons will also be in large church sanctuaries near campus, i.e. St. John's Episcopal and Memorial Lutheran that are generously offering time and access to pipe organs. Depending on Covid incidence, lessons may be virtual with the help of Webex or Zoom. Students need a computer with speakers, I-phone, microphone, internet connection, virtually-agreed-upon scores, and agreed-upon lesson day/time. Organs in Music 212 and 214 will be available for solo practice and teaching with instructions/materials for maintaining public health that include signing in, using hand sanitizer, masking, social distancing. Practice-time sign-up sheets are posted inside on the 212 and 214 doors. Please refer to "COVID-19 health and safety" in this syllabus. If you must miss a class hour due to an excused absence (religious, health-related, or participation in an approved academic or athletic event) you should contact the instructor via email with a written excuse, in advance whenever and as soon as possible. If a student is absent six or more times without official documentation (e.g. Student Health, Dean of Students) s/he will be at risk of failing the course. Assignments will be made up only at the discretion of the instructor, and only with a doctor's written note or evidence of a family emergency. Requirements for class attendance, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies.

Free Expression

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of **freedom of speech** and the principle of **academic freedom** in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of a diversity of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech as long as student expression in a class context is germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.

Covid 19 Health and Safety

<https://web.iastate.edu/safety/updates/covid19>

- All students, faculty, staff, and visitors to campus are encouraged to wear face masks in all indoor spaces when around others. Unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear a face mask anywhere they are around others, and to practice physical distancing when possible.

Church rules include signing in, wearing face masks, hand sanitizing, and social distancing.

Accessibility Statement

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.