

## ORGAN PEDAGOGY

MVK 4600

Class Time: M9:35-10:25AM

MUB 332

Spring 2024

Instructor: Dr. Laura Ellis, MUB 326

Phone: 352-273-3181

E-mail: [lrellis@ufl.edu](mailto:lrellis@ufl.edu)

Office Hours: TBA (office hours will be announced following the scheduling of applied organ, harpsichord, and carillon lessons)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

### \*Organ Method Books (Arranged chronologically by date of publication) \*

- Lemmens, Jack Nikolaus. École d'orgue basée sur le plain-chant romain, 1862. #
- Nilson, Lars. A System of Technical Studies in Pedal Playing for the Organ. New York, NY: G. Schirmer, 1904.
- Stainer, Sir John. The Organ: A Method. Bryn Mawr, PA: Oliver Ditson Company, 1910.
- Barnes, Edward Shippen. School of Organ Playing. Boston, MA: Boston Music Co., 1921.
- Dickinson, Clarence. The Technique and Art of Organ Playing. New York, NY: H.W. Gray, 1922.
- Dupré, Marcel. Gammes de Pédal. Alphonse Leduc, 1924.
- Dupré, Marcel. Méthode d'Orgue. Alphonse Leduc, 1927.
- Tournemire, Charles. Précis d'exécution, de registration, et d'improvisation à l'Orgue. New York NY: Associated Music Publishers, 1936.
- Best, W.T. The Art of Organ Playing. San Antonio, TX: Southern Music Co., 1949.
- Peeters, Flor. Little Organ Book. Evanston, IL: Summy-Birchard, 1957.
- Kaller, Ernst. Orgelschule. Mainz: Schott, before 1961.
- Viderø, Finn. School of Organ Playing. London: J. & W. Chester, Ltd., 1963.
- Hilty, Everett Jay. Principles of Organ Playing. Boulder, CO: Pruett Publishing, 1971.
- Trevor, C.H. The Oxford Organ Method. London: Oxford University Press, 1971.
- Johnson, David N., Instruction Book for Beginning Organists. Augsburg Publishing, revised edition, 1973.
- Andrews, Mildred and Pauline Riddle. Church Organ Method. New York, NY: Carl Fischer, 1973.
- Ragatz, Oswald G. Organ Technique: A Basic Course of Study. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1979.
- Soderlund, Sandra. Organ Technique: An Historical Approach. Chapel Hill, NC: Hinshaw Music, 1980/1986.
- Davis, Roger E. The Organists' Manual. New York: WW Norton & Co, 1985.
- Enright, Richard. Fundamentals of Organ Playing: Two Practices. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing, 1988.
- Ritchie, George and Stauffer, George. Organ Technique: Modern and Early. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Simon & Schuster, 1992 (revised 2000).
- Gleason, Harold. Method of Organ Playing. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall. (multiple editions/latest is 8<sup>th</sup> edition, 1995)
- Leupold, Wayne. First Organ Book. Boston, MA: ECS Publishing, 1995.
- Fishell, Janette. But What Do I Do with My Feet?: The Pianist's Guide to the Organ. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1996.
- Jones, Joyce. King of Instruments: A Short Method. St. Louis, MO: MorningStar, 2000. +

Thomas, Anne Marsden. A Practical Guide to Playing the Organ Book One. Watford, England: Cramer Music, 2001. +  
Sanger, David. Play the Organ: A Beginner's Tutorial, vol. 1. London: Novello, 2004.  
Thomas, Anne Marsden and Frederick Stocken. The New Oxford Organ Method. Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 2020.

### **\*Hymn Playing Texts\***

Heller, David. Manual on Hymn Playing. Chicago, IL: GIA Publishing, 1992.  
Lovelace, Austin. The Organist and Hymn Playing (revised). Carol Stream, IL: Agape Press, 1981.

### **\*Improvisation Texts\***

Baker, George. Organ Improvisation: A Workbook of Ideas and Exercises Leading to New Music Creations. Baroque Notes, Inc., 2022.  
Bender, Jan. Organ Improvisation for Beginners. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing, 1975.  
Brillhart, Jeffrey. Breaking Free: Finding a Personal Language for Organ Improvisation through 20<sup>th</sup>-century French Improvisation Techniques. Colfax, NC: Wayne Leupold Editions, 2011.  
Hancock, Gerre. Improvising: How to Master the Art. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.  
Krapf, Gerhard. Organ Improvisation: A Practical Approach to Chorale Elaborations for the Service. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Publishing, 1967.  
Lanning, Denise. In the Beginning: An Encounter with Improvisation at the Organ. Colfax, NC: Wayne Leupold Editions, 2011.  
Ruiter-Feenstra, Pamela. Bach & the Art of Improvisation, vol. 1. Ann Arbor, MI: CHI Press, 2011.  
Shannon, John R. First Improvisation Book. Colfax, NC: Wayne Leupold Editions, 2002.

### **\*Performance Practice Texts\***

Bach, C.P.E. Versuch über die wahre Art das Clavier zu spielen, 1753. Trans. Mitchell, William J. Essay on the True Art of Playing Keyboard Instruments. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1949. \*  
Bach, J.S. Eight Little Preludes and Fugues. Edited by Sandra Soderlund. Colfax, NC: Wayne Leupold Editions, 1995. +  
Couperin, François. L'art toucher le clavecin, 1716. #\*  
David, Hans and Mendel, Arthur. The New Bach Reader. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1997.  
Donington, Robert. The Interpretation of Early Music: New Version. London: Faber and Faber, 1975. \*  
Dupré, Marcel. Seventy-Nine Chorales for the Organ, Op. 28. H.W. Gray, 1932.  
Faulkner, Quentin. J.S. Bach's Keyboard Technique: An Historical Introduction. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 1984.  
Laukvik, Jon. Historical Performance Practice in Organ Playing (3 volumes). 1996 (revised 2020). +  
Neumann, Frederick. Ornamentation in Baroque and Post-Baroque Music: with special emphasis on J.S. Bach. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1978.  
Neumann, Frederick. Performance Practices of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries. New York, NY: Schirmer Books, 1993.  
Soderlundh, Sandra. How Did They Play? How Did They Teach? A History of Keyboard Technique. Chapel Hill, NC: Hishaw Music, 2006.  
Williams, Peter. The Organ Music of J.S. Bach. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 1980 (first two volumes revised 2004/2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

+Ellis has no personal copy (or, can't find it!)  
#Available on IMSLP  
\*Library

~~ *The above lists are not exhaustive (mostly a list of texts I have accumulated through the years). If you find additional titles in your searching, please let me know!*

**Educational Resources on the AGO Website** (<https://www.agohq.org/education/educational-resources/>)

Lessons for the New Organist  
Beginning Improvisation  
AGO Master Teacher DVD Series  
    Volume 1: Catherine Crozier  
    Volume 2: Marie Claire Alain  
    Volume 3: Frederick Swann  
    Volume 4: Gerre Hancock  
    Volume 5: Marilyn Mason  
A mini-course on organ registration

**PURPOSES AND GOALS**

This course will provide an analysis of the principles, methods, and practices currently used in the teaching of organ. Our discussion of organ pedagogy will include a survey of teaching and pedagogical methods both historical and modern. Techniques critical to successful service playing (such as hymn playing, accompanying anthems/solos, and conducting from the console) will be explored. Research will include a compilation of graded organ repertoire lists for the following student categories: undergraduate organ major, undergraduate music minor, and non-degree seeking student whose primary goal is to serve as a church organist.

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

Attendance & Preparation	--	40%
Annotated Bibliography	--	20%
Graded Sample Repertoire Lists	--	20%
Studio Class Presentations	--	20%
	-----	100%

**ATTENDANCE**

Prompt and regular class attendance is required. Students are required to attend each class and will be responsible for all information presented or assigned. Attendance will be taken and participation during class is encouraged. Predicted absenteeism should be discussed with the instructor no less than one week prior to the event. Tardiness and/or leaving early will affect attendance record. In the event that a student is absent, the student is solely responsible for getting notes and handouts from a fellow student, not the instructor. If you must be absent, please contact me prior to class meetings:

Phone: 352-273-3181

E-mail: [lrellis@ufl.edu](mailto:lrellis@ufl.edu)

In consideration of the instructor and your fellow students, please silence cell-phones during class sessions.

## **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

The student will be required to turn in an annotated bibliography of all books cited and discussed in class. In these annotations, please provide at least the following:

- a short biography of the author
- overview of contents (exercises, literature, hymns, discussion of how the organ works, etc.)
- unique attributes (for example: wow, these are the coolest pedal exercises!)
- pros/cons (would this book be useful for you in the future? Why/why not?)
- current availability (can one purchase the text or is it available via IMSLP, etc.)

**DUE: Wednesday, April 24 @ 5PM.**

## **REPERTOIRE LISTS**

Each student will compile graded organ repertoire lists for the following student categories:

- undergraduate organ major
- undergraduate music minor
- non-degree seeking student whose primary goal is to serve as a church organist

**DUE: Wednesday, April 24 @ 5PM.**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

This course requires two presentations on any topic relevant to organ pedagogy. The presentation may focus on the analysis of a specific pedagogical problem, discuss a representative organ technique/method or focus on a particular technical problem. Or, you might prepare a presentation that shares your research about a historic school of teaching (Lemmens, Dupré, Gleason, etc.), or topics related to performance anxiety, memorization techniques, performance practice, etc. The presentations may include recordings, handouts, powerpoint, etc. *Please discuss topic and possible presentation date(s) with Dr. Ellis in advance.* This is an opportunity to share your unique interest with fellow organists! Each presentation should be 10 – 15 minutes in length.

**DUE: The last possible date to provide a presentation for organ studio is Thursday, April 11.**

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## *TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE*

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Week of January 8

Introduction, Syllabus, Discussion of plan of attack!

Week of January 15

Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 1

\*plan to review 4-5 method books per week

Week of January 22

Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 2

View: AGO The Master Series Volume 1: Catherine Crozier

Week of January 29

Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 3

View: AGO The Master Series Volume 2: Marie-Claire Alain

Week of February 5

Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 4

View: AGO The Master Series Volume 3: Frederick Swann

Week of February 12

- Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 5  
View: AGO The Master Series Volume 4: Gerre Hancock
- Week of February 19  
Historical review of Organ Method Books, week 6  
View: AGO The Master Series Volume 5: Marilyn Mason
- Week of February 26  
BAROQUE TECHNIQUE  
Compare/contrast the discussion of “early technique” as described in the Ritchie/Stauffer and the Soderlund. Prepare an outline of the primary considerations. Consult additional method books, if desired.
- Week of March 4  
LEGATO TECHNIQUE  
Review the discussion of “modern technique” in the Ritche/Stauffer. Comment on the following performance considerations: repeated notes, common tones, articulation (legato, staccato, marcato, non-legato), *rollschweller*, and *ventils*. Prepare an outline of the primary considerations.
- Week of March 11  
**SPRING BREAK**
- Week of March 18  
Review of AGO resources (<https://www.agohq.org/education/educational-resources/>)
- Week of March 25  
Hymn Playing
- Week of April 1  
Preparing Piano Accompaniments for the Organ
- Week of April 8  
Conducting from the Console
- Week of April 15  
Graded Repertoire Lists
- Week of April 22  
Graded Repertoire Lists and Annotated Bibliography due by 5PM on Wednesday, April 24.
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## **GRADING SCALE**

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points may be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

## **COURSE EVALUATION**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

## **ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the](#)

[Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **DIGITAL STUDENT COMMUNICATION AND EXPECTATION**

The preferred communication method between faculty member and students enrolled in this course is via the UFL-mail system. Please send e-mails to me at: [lellis@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:lellis@arts.ufl.edu) or [LREllis@ufl.edu](mailto:LREllis@ufl.edu) via your ufl.edu e-mail. I will endeavor to respond to all school related e-mails within 24 hours. Should you need assistance resolving technical issues, contact the UF Help Desk (<https://helpdesk.ufl.edu>) or call 352-392-4357.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **IN-CLASS RECORDING**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

## **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

### Health and Wellness

#### *U Matter, We Care:*

If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [www.umatter.ufl.edu](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

#### *Counseling and Wellness Center:*

Visit [www.counseling.ufl.edu/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [www.shcc.ufl.edu](http://www.shcc.ufl.edu).

*University Police Department:* Visit [www.police.ufl.edu/](http://www.police.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [www.ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://www.ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

### Academic Resources

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the UF Computing Help Desk ([www.helpdesk.ufl.edu](http://www.helpdesk.ufl.edu)), 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services. [www.career.ufl.edu/](http://www.career.ufl.edu/)

*Library Support:* <https://afa.uflib.ufl.edu> various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. [www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu/](http://www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. [www.writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/](http://www.writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/)

#### *Student Complaints On-Campus:*

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

*On-Line Student Complaints:* [www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/)

***Additional Course Fees:*** MVK 4600: \$30.00