

MUHL 6960 - Research in Music

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 42860,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Joseph Louth

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Paul Louth

Instructor Professional Qualifications: *Ph. D., Music (Education), Western University; Master of Music Education, Western University; Bachelor of Education, University of Toronto; Bachelor of Music in Performance, University of Toronto; Diploma in Applied Music, Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology*

Instructor Office Location: Bliss Hall 3149

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Course Description

6960. Research in Music. This course serves as an introduction to research methods in music, provides an overview of music scholarship, and develops research and writing skills appropriate to graduate level study. the final project lays the foundation for the capstone project in the Master's in Music Education degree or serves as the research requirement for the Master's in Music Performance degree. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
	No readings		

All course materials are fully integrated into Blackboard.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Module 1	Introduction to Music Research; research vs. opinion; crucial issues facing music research today; overview of major research methods	Discussion contribution Introduce Yourself (for 3% bonus)
8/31	Module 2	Historical Research: Traditional	Discussion contribution Written assignment 1
9/7	Module 3	Historical Research: Postmodern, Feminist, and Critical	Discussion contribution Written Assignment 2
9/14	Module 4	Performance-based Research	Discussion contribution Written assignment 3
9/21	Module 5	Music Analysis as Research (generating/ testing versus using music theories)	Discussion contribution Written assignment 4
9/28	Module 6	Philosophical / Theoretical Research, Part 1	Discussion contribution
10/5	Module 7	Philosophical / Theoretical Research, Part 2	Written Assignment 5
10/12	Module 8	Qualitative Research, Part 1 (ethnography / narrative research, etc.)	Discussion contribution
10/19	Module 9	Qualitative Research, Part 2 (ethnography / narrative research, etc.)	Written Assignment 6

10/26	Module 10	Brief Overview of Quantitative Research (study designs, basic types, aims)	Discussion contribution Written Assignment 7
11/2	Module 11	Review of All Major Research Methods (Quiz and Portfolio check)	Idea for final project and paper
11/9	Module 12	Doing Secondary Research: Online / Library Resources	Quiz must be taken by Thursday before midnight Research Portfolio due
11/16	Module 13	Bibliography and Style	
11/23	Module 14	Video Presentations of Research Projects	Video presentation due Feedback on 3 other people's videos as discussion posts
11/30	Module 15	Work on final research paper	Research Paper Due (no exceptions)
12/7		No exam in this course.	

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.