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# **Rhapsody on Program Diversity: Linking Music Program Learning Outcomes with Graduate Degree Level Expectations**

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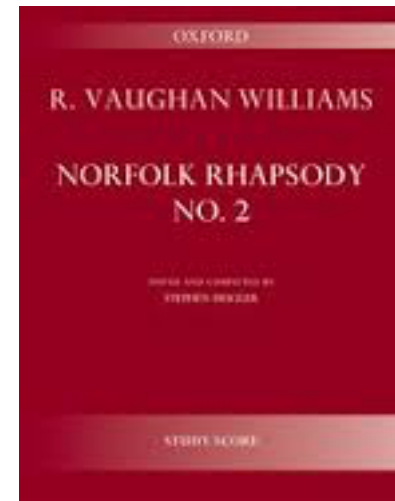
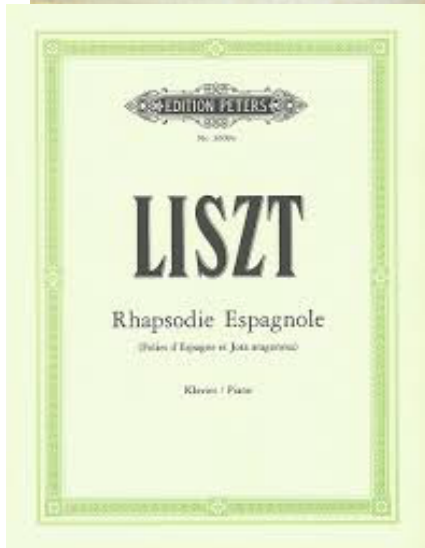
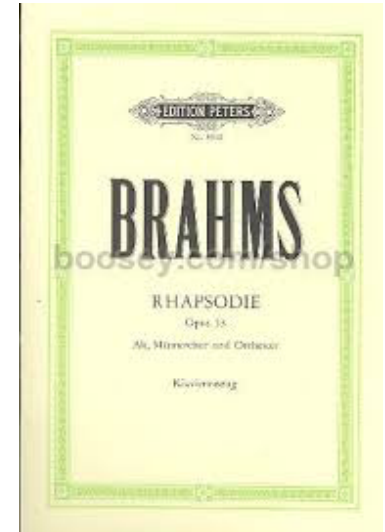
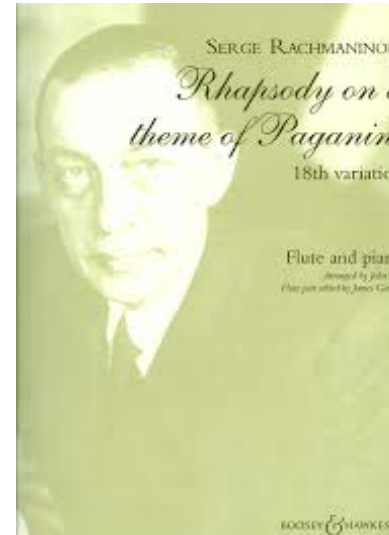
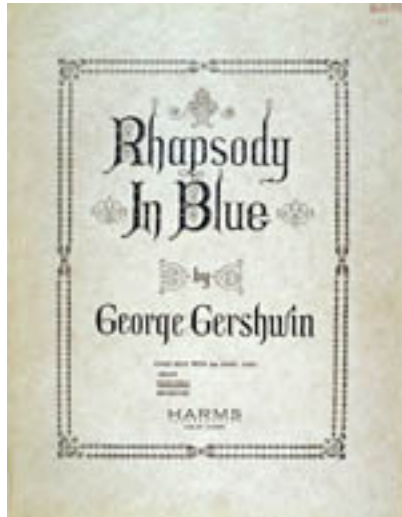
**Don Wright Faculty of Music, Western University**

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# Some well known Rhapsodies



# Graduate program in Music at Western

## Fields of research

Music education

Music theory

Musicology

Composition

Performance

# Music education, music theory, musicology (Group 1)

Music education: the study of theories and practices in musical education from philosophical, psychological, and sociological perspectives

Music theory: the analytical study of musical works and repertoires and the critical study of theoretical frameworks and methodologies

Musicology: the scholarly and historical study of musical works and repertoires and the critical study of music in diverse cultural contexts

# Composition, performance

## (Group 2)

Composition: the artistic creation of original musical works and the study of musical repertoire and compositional technique

Performance: the artistic representation in concert or recording of musical works and the study of performance practices and traditions

# Affiliations with larger classifications of knowledge

Music education, music theory, musicology (Group 1)

- Affiliated with the social sciences and humanities
- Encourage interdisciplinary engagement

Composition, performance (Group 2)

- Affiliated with the fine and performing arts
- Hold a dual view of music as both non-temporal (scores) and temporal (recitals, concerts, productions)

## Music as text (non-temporal)

- Musical scores
- Scholarly writings about music

## Music as event (temporal)

- Recitals
- Concerts
- Productions



## **MA (Master of Arts)**

- Music Theory
- Musicology

## **MMus (Master of Music)**

- Composition
- Music Education
- Performance

# PhD in Music

- Music Theory
- Musicology
- Music Education
- Composition

# DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts)

- Performance

# Graduate Degree Level Expectations

- Depth and breadth of knowledge
- Research and scholarship
- Level of application of knowledge
- Professional capacity / autonomy
- Level of communication skills
- Awareness of limits of knowledge

# Research ↔ Creative Activity

- Studious inquiry or examination; investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws
- Construction or formulation of new entities; the process by which new ideas, stories, etc., [including musical compositions or performances] are created

# Questions for discussion

1. What are some other graduate programs that are characterized by diversity through a large number of fields of research?
2. Do the various fields of research in these programs show affiliations with larger categories of knowledge?
3. Does understanding the affiliations with larger categories of knowledge help with the articulation of program learning outcomes and linking program learning outcomes with GDLEs?

# Other programs characterized by diversity (just a few examples)

- Neuroscience
- Anthropology
- Philosophy

## Another question for discussion

4. The need to balance academic and artistic goals is a reflection of program diversity. How is this need addressed in graduate programs such as studio art, theatre, or film studies that likewise must balance academic and artistic goals?

# Music graduate program objectives (summary)

- To foster original research and creative activity and to promote the dissemination of this research and creative activity
- To promote the development of knowledge and skills in research and creative activity
- To produce accomplished scholars, composers, performers, and teachers of music



Thank you!



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