

## **Guideline For Writing an Independent Study/Directed Reading Proposal:**

When a grad student designs an independent study around an existing ensemble or performance group, it's expected that there will be a higher level of engagement beyond simply playing in the ensemble. Students' proposals should involve a level of critical thinking around the experience, and you should produce a tangible 'work': a document, critique, analysis, journal, conference paper, online resource or creative piece by the end of the course.

We like to open things up for creative ideas at York, so we don't prescribe the parameters, but rather, ask the student to design the proposal.

Some proposal guidelines:

- Describe your objectives & methodology (what you will do during the course)
- What 'work' you intend to produce (a composition, historical article, analysis, online resource, film, blog journal etc.)
- What learning outcomes you expect (do you have research questions going into the course?)
- Lay out your timeline (when assignments are due, keeping in mind the end date of the course)
- How the instructor will evaluate you (how many assignments, what percentage of your final mark)
- Include a bibliography and/or discography

The instructor must agree to read and mark your written material or evaluate creative work you submit. Please keep in mind this is voluntary work for the instructor, so you are in the driver's seat for achieving your goals and deadlines.