



Department of Music

MUA 1064 - MUA 4064 Private Harp

1 Unit

Spring 2026

Meeting days/times: Wednesday* 12:30-2:30

Meeting location : Cooper Music Building, Room TBA

Final Exam: Wednesday, May 6, 2026

INFORMATION	SPECIFICS FOR THE COURSE
Instructor title and name:	Julie S. Phillips
Phone:	216.224.6798
Email:	jphilli1@pointloma.edu
Office location and hours:	By appointment only

Lesson days are currently scheduled for the following 2026 dates:

Wed, Jan. 21

Wed, Feb. 4

Wed, Feb. 18

Thurs, Feb. 26 *

Wed, March 18

Wed, March 25 (make-up lesson opportunity)

Wed, April 1

Wed, April 15

Wed, April 26

Lesson Times will be scheduled individually, between 12:30-3:30pm.

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description:

Private, applied instruction in a harp is a vital part of the development of Music majors, as well as an appropriate elective for many non-majors. Each level of study has defined materials and technical masteries to be achieved. Students are assigned to a level according to their proficiency and mastery of materials listed for a given level.

Course Learning Outcomes:

In this course you will:

1. Develop appropriate technical proficiency through regular exercises and routines in your daily practice. Elements of attention include proper hand / finger positioning, raising, pedal practice, and body posture.
2. Expand your harp repertoire, learning 1-2 new pieces in each of the 4 general musical eras (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern). Musical elements to acquire include correct rhythm and pitch accuracy of repertoire and collegiate level tonal quality.
3. Acquire and/or strengthen your performance skills to accomplish "public" performances on the harp.

Mastery will be demonstrated in a jury / final by scoring a minimum of 3 out of 4 in each category.

Although there will be a performance for your final exam, those students who are not required to perform a formal jury exam will be evaluated primarily to the course assignments listed below.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Develop applied music skills in one primary performance area (harp) in solo, chamber and ensemble settings (for all music majors). This includes learning standard repertoire of all major musical eras, studying major composers of the harp repertoire, and standard excerpts from the orchestral, band, and chamber repertoire. Additionally, harp majors will gain experience in arranging their own music, developing a marketing plan, and caring for their instrument.

Required Texts / Music and Recommended Study Resources:

Repertoire will be determined on an individual basis after the first lesson. I can help you with music for the first two weeks. Please order your music right away, though, so you have original copies by the 3rd week.

Suggested music vendors: Vanderbilt Music, Harp.com, or individual publishers / composers.

Supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book / musical excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

Materials Needed for Class:

- Harp (accurately tuned), bench, music stand
- Harp tuning key
- Harp music
- Personal metronome
- Pencil
- Notebook dedicated for Harp Lessons / course
- Full set of extra strings for your instrument (at least have them easily accessible, if needed)

Course Credit Hour Information:

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 37.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes.

Assessment and Grading:

Weekly Grade - Two parts (Practice hours and Assignments) will be averaged together to create a grade for each lesson, after the first lesson.

Practice hours and days:

- At each lesson, please report the number of hours and days you practiced on your assigned repertoire since our last meeting.
- Expected practice time is a minimum of 6 hours per week (per unit of credit), and 6 days per week.
- The hours and days practiced will be averaged with the minimum goal set for practice hours (6 hrs). That number will determine 25% of your weekly grade (6+ = A; 5 = B; 4 = C; 3 = D; 2 = F)
- If you are at the 3056 at 4056 levels, studying for 2 units of credit, you are expected to practice 3-4 hours per day.
- The PLNU Music Department student handbook states, *"a student should practice one hour daily for each half-hour lesson per week (1 unit of registration). A student with a one-hour lesson per week (2 units of registration) should practice two hours daily. Students preparing for a junior or senior recital will need more practice time. Specific guidelines are provided in the syllabus for each instructor."*

Lesson Assignments:

- During lessons, together we will create your next lesson assignment. We will also discuss and determine a grade for your progress on the previous week's assignments. At the end of the lesson, you will have your assignment for the next lesson.

Attendance - Attendance is important for continued success and makes up 50% of your weekly grade. If there is an emergency, if possible, please contact me ahead of time. If there needs to be a cancellation or postponed lesson, please reach out to me at least 48 hours in advance of the lesson time. On occasion, an online lesson may be planned, but only with prior arrangements having been made.

Students who miss more than 1 lesson will earn a lower grade:

- 2 absences = -5% of final grade
- 3 absences = -10% of final grade
- 4 absences = -20% of final grade
- 5 absences = -30% of final grade

There is one date (March 25, 2026) to make up a 1 hour lesson that was previously missed. Otherwise, the above formula will apply.

Memorization - Memorization is part of the harp tradition and is a challenging part for any musician, even professionals. Learning the skill of performing music by memory prepares you for any demanding moment, and especially for required degree recitals. Breaking up the piece and memorizing smaller sections first is helpful for larger works. Often you'll find with regular practice, the memorization will come naturally.

- Students taking the course for 1 unit will memorize 2 pieces (approx. 6 min. of music) during the semester:
 - The first piece (or first 3 min.) by week 8 [March 6, 2026]
 - The second piece (or last 3 min.) by our last lesson before finals week [April 29, 2026]
- Students taking the course for 2 units will memorize 3 pieces (approx. 10 minutes of music) during the semester:
 - The first piece (or first 3 min.) by week 5.
 - The second piece (or next 3 min.) by week 10.
 - The third piece (or last 4 min.) by our last lesson (before finals week).
- Students taking the course at the 3064 or 4064 level will break down their repertoire to have it memorized by certain dates of the semester. $\frac{1}{3}$ of your jury literature is to be memorized by week 5, and $\frac{2}{3}$ of your jury literature should be memorized by week 10.
- For any weeks after the memorized deadline in which you don't have your music memorized, the grade for that week will be 50% of the weekly grade earned that week. Subsequent weekly grades will be 50% until you are able to complete the memorized assignment.

Performances - The opportunity to perform teaches you many skills not only on your instrument but also to know better your learning and preparation style. In order to produce a strong performance, the work begins long before the day of a recital. It also requires many practice performances to perform confidently.

Student Recitals - Each music major must perform on a recital once per semester in their major performing area. If your major performing area is harp and you choose not to perform on a student recital, it will count as two missed lessons. Student recital performance dates should be selected in consultation with me, at least 30 days prior to the performance date.

Ensemble Concerts - The skill of performing with an ensemble is just as important as solo playing. Each harp major will be assigned an ensemble to perform with each semester (or as needed). Repertoire and ensembles will be assigned according to level and ability.

Practice Performances: Before important performances (student recitals, jury, etc), it is imperative for you to have practice runs of the piece(s) and/or program. Opportunities include playing in a harp class, for friends or family, nursing homes, church, or an off-campus event. Pieces should be performed from memory 3 times before a student recital performance and 5 times before a jury performance.

Grading Components

1. Weekly grade (assignments and practice hours/days)
2. Memorization schedule
3. Jury / "Final" performance
4. Performance requirement (if required)
5. Attendance

The following grade scale will be used

Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A+ : 97-100	C+ : 77-79	F: less than 59
A : 93-96	C : 73-76	
A- : 90-92	C- : 70-72	
B+ : 87-89	D+ : 67-69	
B : 83-86	D : 63-66	
B- : 80-82	D- : 60-62	

Final Examination Policy:

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

The jury (required of some students as described above) is the final examination in Private Harp and successful completion of this class requires taking the jury **on its scheduled day**. For students not required to take a jury, a private performance of selected repertoire will be the final exam.

If you are a music major whose primary performing area is harp OR you have a Music Department scholarship in harp, you are required to take a jury at the end of each term according to the requirements in the Music Department Catalog. Failure to do a required jury will result in course failure. The final grade instructor assigns must be no more than one grade higher or lower than the jury grade. For juries, the grade is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the final grade. Forms are available in the Music Department Canvas page. The Applied Music Summary must be typed.

Content Warning:

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive various types of information. In this course, all of the class content, including that which may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to achieve the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. If you encounter a topic that is intellectually challenging for you, it can manifest in feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to come talk to me or your friends or family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of music, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

Trigger Warning:

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive several types of information. In this course, we will cover a variety of topics. I don't anticipate any topics to be triggering, but if there are, please do let me know. The experience of being triggered versus intellectually challenged are different. The main difference is that an individual must have experienced trauma to experience being triggered,

whereas an intellectual challenge has nothing to do with trauma. If you are a trauma survivor and encounter a topic in this class that is triggering for you, you may feel overwhelmed or panicked and find it difficult to concentrate. In response, I encourage you to take the necessary steps for your emotional safety. This may include leaving class while the topic is discussed or talking to a therapist at the Counseling Center. Should you choose to sit out on discussion of a certain topic, know that you are still responsible for the material; but we can discuss if there are other methods for accessing that material, and for assessing your learning on that material. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of music and harp, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

Spiritual Care:

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain, or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

State Authorization:

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow distance education outside California.

PLNU Copyright Policy:

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification:

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy:

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy:

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy:

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course.

Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Language and Belonging:

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination.

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination:

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/Title-IX.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy:

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

PLNU Course Modality Definitions:

1. Online Courses: These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction is fully online.
 - a. Synchronous Courses: At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
 - b. Asynchronous Courses: All class meetings are asynchronous.
2. Hybrid Courses: These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
3. In-Person Courses: These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).

In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards

will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

Use of Technology:

In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible nor allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see [Loma Writing Center webpage](#) or visit the Loma Writer Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.

- [Appointment Calendar](#)
- [Website](#)
- Email: writingcenter@pointloma.edu

Assignments At-A-Glance

Lomabooks Instructions for Students:

Note: For courses using materials available through Lomabooks

For both digital and print materials, please add these student instructions to your syllabus and Canvas Course. Prior to the start of class, the PLNU Bookstore will also be sharing student instructions in a standalone email on how to access their content.

*This course is part of our course material delivery program, **LomaBooks**. The bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical materials; all digitally delivered materials will be integrated into Canvas.*

You should have received an email from the bookstore confirming the list of materials that will be provided for each of your courses and asking you to select how you would like to receive any printed components (in-store pick up or home delivery). If you have not done so already, please confirm your fulfillment preference so the bookstore can prepare your materials.

For more information about **LomaBooks**, please go: [HERE](#)