

CELTIC COLLEGE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Accordion & Concertina	pg. 1	Vocal.....	pg. 11
Bodhrán.....	pg. 2	Ensemble.....	pg. 12
Fiddle	pg. 3	Songwriting & Theory.....	pg. 14
Flute, Whistle, and Pipes	pg. 5	Language	pg. 14
Fretted Strings	pg. 6	Craft Art	pg. 15
Guitar	pg. 8	Dance	pg. 17
Harp	pg. 9	Sound	pg. 18
Piano	pg. 10		

* All classes take place at Goderich District Collegiate Institute (GDCl) unless otherwise marked.

* Course descriptions are subject to change.

ACCORDION

2001: Intermediate Piano Accordion (Danny Collins)

In this course, students will add to their repertoire by learning both traditional Irish tunes and some newly composed ones! The class will then develop these tunes by working on ornamentation, variation, and bass work to create more sophisticated arrangements. Sheet music will be provided, and students are encouraged to bring a recording device to class.

3001: Intermediate Concertina (Lexie Boatright)

This class will focus on Irish Traditional Music on the C/G Anglo Concertina. It will cover how to choose your fingering system to help with flow, chording, octaves, and other arranging techniques to get an authentic trad Irish sound. There will be a large focus on the chord structure theory behind each phrase, how to identify which chords you can play when, and how to find them in the right direction. Lexie especially loves helping students get un-stuck or helping everything make sense, so if anyone has been feeling confused and frustrated, then this is the class for them!

To keep up comfortably in this class, students should be familiar with where each note is on the concertina in the most common keys and should have a general comfort with playing session tunes. Recording for personal use is highly encouraged, and students should bring their concertina, a recording device, and a notebook.

4001: Beginner Piano Accordion (Ryan Ward)

In this class, learn the fundamentals of playing Irish Traditional Music on the piano accordion! Students will learn some simple, common tunes to take with them to play at sessions or at home. We will cover topics like fingering, ornamentation, and technique as needed and based on class ability level. Students will also learn about basic chord structure for Irish tunes, how to choose chords to accompany melody, and how the accompaniment system of the left-hand works. This class will be taught by ear and with ABC notation, and students should know a little basic technique and how to play a few simple tunes. Bring your piano accordion, a recording device, and something to take notes, and get ready to build a solid foundation for your future adventures with the piano accordion!

BODHRÁN

***Please note that limited bodhráns are available to be borrowed for classes 1001 and 3002. Please contact the Celtic Office upon registration to request a reservation (first come, first served). If no bodhrán is reserved, students are responsible for bringing their own.**

1001: Beginner Bodhrán* (Cara Wildman)

This class is for the beginner bodhrán player who understands the basic techniques of their instrument but is still working to become fully comfortable with them. Students will review the anatomy and a brief history of the Irish frame drum, how to properly hold and strike the bodhrán, how to incorporate the back hand for tonal variations, and drills to work on basic stroke and tone types. Tune types will include jigs, reels, hornpipes, slip jigs, and polkas. We will also have a segment about deciding what to play to accompany tunes once you have the basics of the instrument under your belt, and a segment for student requests. Bring your instrument, tipper, recording device, something to take notes, and all your goals and questions!

2002: Intermediate Bodhrán (Colm Phelan)

This intermediate level class will focus on finding the natural rhythms of a variety of Irish tune types, with a major focus on jigs and reels, although less common tune types such as hornpipes, slip jigs, and barn dances may also be covered. Students should have at least a year of experience playing bodhrán under their belts in order to keep up comfortably in this class. Audio/visual recording for personal use will be permitted at the end of class. Please bring your instrument and your sense of fun!

3002: Beyond the Basics* (Cara Wildman)

Bodhrán players often learn technique quickly and then plateau, unsure of how to apply the basic techniques into meaningful accompaniment. This course will go past identifying rhythms in Irish music to being able to engage with and tastefully accompany tunes beyond basic motor rhythms. Differences in accompanying tunes...

...with solo melody vs accompanying tunes with melody and another backing instrument will be discussed. Additionally, pacing over a tune/set of tunes will be considered.

This is not an introductory course, and students need at minimum a basic knowledge of how to play their instrument to be successful in this class. Bring your instrument, tipper, recording device, something to take notes, and all your goals and questions! Sheet music will be provided.

4002: Advanced Bodhrán (Colm Phelan)

In this class, students will work on different sticking techniques and will learn the ins and outs of how to do various styles of ornamentation. Audio/video recording for personal use will be permitted at the end of class. Please bring your instrument and your sense of fun!

FIDDLE

1002: Advanced Irish Tunes (Áine McGeeny)

Expand your repertoire with a lively variety of Irish tunes! This class will explore many different tune types and will delve into the rhythms of each one. Hop jigs, polkas, slides, and hornpipes will be covered, amongst other favourites. The class will be taught primarily by ear, so audio recording is encouraged, but ABC music can also be provided at the end of class if needed.

1003: Fast & Fluid Playing – Intermediate (Saskia Tomkins) ****FULL!****

Take your technique up a notch! In this intermediate-level class, Saskia will help students to develop their technique with bowing and fingering to enhance the quality of their playing. Students should bring a small selection of favourite tunes, including a jig, a reel, a polka, and a waltz or slow air, which they can use to apply the skills that they are learning. Students are encouraged to bring a notebook and/or recording device. Sheet music, and a checklist of skills to remember, will be made available.

1004: Beginner Cape Breton Fiddle (Morgan Toney)

In this course, students who are new to the fiddle can learn a few Cape Breton tunes and the basics of the style. If you can read sheet music, great! If not, that's okay too. This course is all about patience and making learning fun!

2003: Intermediate Irish Technique (Áine McGeeney)

This intermediate-level class will help to expand students' repertoire, and will use the tunes taught as a basis for exploring ornamentation, rhythm, and the ins and outs of Irish fiddle playing more broadly. The class will be taught primarily by ear, so audio recording is encouraged, but ABC music can be provided if desired.

2004: Beginner Fiddle Tunes (Saskia Tomkins)

Start building your repertoire with some new fiddle tunes! Students will learn some simple tunes and will also work on developing their technique. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but sheet music and a checklist of skills to remember will be provided. Students are encouraged to bring a notebook and a recording device, plus any questions about technique problems for discussion at the end of class. Please let Saskia know if you have any learning difficulties or preferred learning styles, so that she can best support students' diversity in learning.

2005: Playing Expressively – Advanced (Ryan Young)

The key to expressive playing is the ability to make a tune your own. In this class, students will learn Scottish and Irish tunes by ear, and will explore ways to create variations and personal “settings” of tunes. Ryan will discuss concepts from the perspective of a solo fiddle player. He will demonstrate ways to change melodies, and will introduce ornaments and bowing ideas that can help to make a player sound unique. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but sheet music will also be provided. Students are encouraged to bring a recording device, a tune that they'd like to work on, and all of their questions!

3003: Intermediate Irish Fiddle (Jake James)

This class will focus on traditional Irish repertoire. Students will be introduced to a variety of tunes and tune-types, and will also learn about ornamentation, variations, and the repertoire of some notable musicians. Sheet music will be provided upon request, and audio recording for personal use is encouraged.

3004: Intermediate Tunes in Vielle (Véronique Plasse)

In this intermediate-level class, students will explore traditional Québécois repertoire in the special tuning of vielle (E-A-E-A). Sheet music can be provided at students' request.

4003: Advanced Cape Breton Fiddle (Cassie MacDonald)

Learn the history and background of this unique and widely appreciated style of fiddling. Classes will focus on learning traditional jigs, reels, strathspeys, and marches by ear (sheet music will be provided as well) with a particular emphasis on structuring medleys and ornamentation/embellishments distinctive of the Cape Breton fiddling style. Make sure to bring a recording device to capture the tunes and play along at home.

4004: Intermediate Tunes from Québec (Véronique Plasse)

In this intermediate level class, dig deep into traditional Québécois repertoire. Students will learn a variety of traditional tunes for sessions and dancing, with a special focus on tunes from the Lanaudière countryside. The class will also explore the nuances that make the style come alive. Sheet music can be provided at students' request.

4005: Beginner Irish & Scottish Style (Ryan Young)

In this class, students will learn some Scottish and Irish tunes, and will explore when and where to use ornaments and aspects of bowing technique to bring the tunes alive. Ryan is well-versed in both styles and has combined elements of the two traditions to form his own unique style. He will discuss stylistic elements pertaining to both countries, and will help students to begin forming a sense of how to create their own style. This class will be taught primarily by ear, but sheet music will also be provided. Students are encouraged to bring a recording device and their questions!

FLUTE, WHISTLE, AND PIPES

1005: Advanced Irish Flute (Steafan Hannigan)

This class will cover a variety of topics to help advanced-level students to improve their playing. Low whistle players may also find this class useful, but please note that the content is **not** applicable for smaller whistles. Looking at examples of respected players, the class will discuss technical aspects such as embouchure, breath control and exercise, issues arising from (un)comfortably holding your instrument, and how to buy and care for your instrument. The class will also delve into regional styles of play, differing playing techniques for dance or concert, ornamentation, and tune selection to suit your style. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but some sheet music will be available.

Students should bring paper/manuscript paper and a pen, a recording device, an open mind, and tolerance for some terrible Dad jokes! Wooden flutes are best for this class, but Delrin or Boehm system would also be fine.

2006: Tips & Tunes for Irish Sessions - Intermediate (Steafan Hannigan)

For wind instruments or any others who would like to join! This fun intermediate-level class will help to demystify Irish sessions and give students some tunes and practical know-how to help them join in sessions successfully. The class will discuss aspects of session playing, etiquette, and how sessions run, dispelling some of the myths so that you can feel confident and have fun at sessions! The class will cover a variety of tune types and delve into selecting sets.

Bring a recording device, pen/paper (or manuscript paper), ideas for tunes to use in a set, and finally an open mind and tolerance for some terrible Dad jokes! Sheet music/resources will be provided, and students would benefit from being able to both sight read and learn by ear.

2007: Introductory Tin Whistle (Alastair MacLean)

In this introductory class, learn the basics of how to play the tin whistle! Students will learn some simple Scottish tunes, and a little bit about the parts of Scotland that they come from. Sheet music will be provided, and students are also encouraged to take audio/video recordings of the class content and tunes for personal practice. Please bring note-taking materials and all of your questions!

3005: Beginner Harmonica (Jean-François Dumas)

In this course, learn how to groove with a harmonica. Students will learn about playing melodies and chords, and will come away with some new Québécois répertoire, especially featuring tunes played by Bon Debarras. Students should make sure to bring a harmonica in D, plus any others in their collection – any style, kind, or tuning is welcome! The class will be taught by ear, so students are encouraged to bring a recording device.

3006: Scottish Piping Tunes – Intermediate, open to all pipes, flutes, and whistles (Alastair MacLean)

In this intermediate-level class for both pipers and the as-yet uninitiated, delve into the rich repertoire of bagpipe tunes. The pipers amongst the group can geek out about the inner workings of pipes, and flautists and whistle players will learn how to replicate pipe tunes and ornamentation so that they can play alongside pipers. The class will explore tunes from different regions of Scotland, with discussion of how the tunes differ and of the role of bagpipes in Scottish history.

Students should bring chanter, whistles, or flutes. Please also bring note-taking materials, a recording device, and all of your questions! Sheet music will be provided.

4006: Beginner Irish Whistle & Flute (Steafan Hannigan)

Learn the basics of your instrument in this fun and friendly class! This beginner-level class will introduce whistle, low whistle, and flute players to fundamental topics such as holding your instrument, getting a good tone, breathing technique, and learning simple scales, and then move on to explore differing types of traditional music and a variety of tune types. We will also discuss what to look for when buying a better instrument.

Students should bring any kind of flute or a whistle in the key of D, a recording device, and their questions! We will learn both by ear and with sheet music, and some resources will be shared with students ahead of time.

FRETTED STRINGS

1006: Beginner Mandolin (Simon Mayor)

If you can *just* about get from start to finish of a simple trad tune, this class is designed to lift you to the next level! Simon will work on establishing a solid technique and eliminating any bad habits that may have crept in, to get your playing to flow smoothly. The class will be taught both by ear (with a brief introduction to Tonic Sol-Fa, i.e. “do-re-mi”) and from music (notation or tablature), in a variety of largely trad styles, and will also cover some simple harmony lines.

Take a look at the music in advance so that we can jump straight into the good bit!
Find it here: mandolin.co.uk/goderich/

1007: Rare & Unusual Irish Tunes – Intermediate, open to all fretted instruments (Alan Reid)

Open to any fretted instrument! In this intermediate-level class, students will gain insight into the more unusual parts of Irish traditional repertoire. The class will go into various sources and will teach some lesser-known tunes that will enrich each student's own tune store. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but some sheet music may be provided.

2008: All About Bass – Beginner (Callum Cronin)

Calling all low-end noise makers: double bass, electric bass, bass drum, bass singers, fiddlers or guitarists with octave pedals, or others! All About Bass is not only about playing bass lines, but about understanding the role of the bass and its player in a band. Coming at the topic from all angles, this class is a chance to explore and create through improvisation, listening, and getting to grips with your instrument.

Sheet music will be provided. Students should bring note-taking materials, a recording device, a capo (guitarists), and any questions, ideas, or funny stories.

2009: Advanced Mandolin (Simon Mayor)

This class will have an emphasis on “concert” as opposed to “session” playing, and will look at the subtleties of style that can be introduced when not playing at session volume, where you are competing with louder instruments. Simon will discuss a variety of technical and stylistic approaches: advanced right- and left-hand techniques, position shifting (visiting the “dusty” end), the use of dynamics, and much more! The class will be taught both by ear (with discussion of Tonic Sol-Fa, i.e. “do-re-mi”) and in parts as an ensemble from notation or tab. Please also bring mandolas, mandocellos, or mandobasses if you play them.

Take a look at the music in advance so that we can jump straight into the good bit! You can also hear MP3s and see video. Find it here: mandolin.co.uk/goderich/

2010: Intermediate Irish Banjo (Alan Reid)

In this class, students will learn how to play Irish traditional music on the tenor/4-string banjo, tuned GDAE. In Irish music, the role of the banjo is to be a melody player, so we will learn some repertoire and will also look into ways of applying stylistic elements like ornamentation and variation. Throughout, the class will also focus on maintaining correct technique. For this class, students should be comfortable learning by ear and should also have some Irish traditional tunes already under their belts.

3007: Jazzing Up Celtic – Beginner, open to all fretted instruments (Callum Cronin)

This beginner-level class is open to all fretted instruments: banjo, bass, bouzouki, mandolin, ukulele, etc., plus guitar!

Playing an accompanying instrument doesn't need to be boring. We are the key to funky, jazzy, and driving tune sets and songs. In this class, we will explore how to come up with some chords for a tune, the type of rhythm to use, and how we can play about with the arrangement to build some groovy parts. (cont. next page)

...We'll be sticking to standard tuning (or DADGAD or other tunings on guitar), and this class will be taught in a way that benefits both readers of notation and those who learn by ear. Students should have some knowledge of the chords/notes of their instrument for this course. Please bring note-taking materials, a recording device, a capo (guitarists) and any questions, ideas, or funny stories!

3008: Intermediate Mandolin (Jefferson Hamer)

This class for intermediate mandolinists will focus on developing technique and musicality using repertoire – both songs and tunes – as a jumping off point. Topics will include right-hand technique and pick-direction, melodic and chordal accompaniment, tune playing and ornamentation, and chord substitution and arrangement.

4007: Intermediate 4-string Quebec-style Banjo (Jean-François Dumas)

Calling all 4-string tenor banjo players! In this class, you will explore Québécois répertoire, with a particular focus on the energetic tunes played by Bon Debarras. The course will be taught by ear, and students should bring a recording device and a sense of patience and joy – or rather, joie de vivre!

4008: Bouzouki Song & Tune Accompaniment – Intermediate (Eamon O'Leary)

This is your one-stop-shop for learning about bouzouki accompaniment! The course will explore right- and left-hand techniques, chord voicings, and various ways to accompany both songs and instrumental tunes, with a main focus on the Irish tradition. Please note that we will use GDAD tuning, and that only audio recording (not video) for personal use is permitted. This class will be taught primarily by ear, but some song lyrics and chord diagrams will be provided. Make sure to bring your capo!

GUITAR

1008: Beginner Chords & Accompaniment (Fionán de Barra)

In this course, we will explore the fundamentals of fingerstyle guitar for traditional and Celtic music. Students will learn simple chord voicing and progression and, also, fingerings to get started for both solo performance and for accompanying songs and tunes. The course will mainly focus on DADGAD tuning.

2011: Intermediate Rhythm Guitar (Fionan de Barra)

In this course, students will explore how to bring life to guitar accompaniment, using various techniques borrowing from other music genres to create unique sounds for traditional and Celtic music. For both instrumental and song accompaniment, students will look at ways of incorporating these techniques to bring fresh sounds and tones to Celtic guitar.

2012: Advanced Guitar (Conal O’Kane)

In this class, students will focus on the role of the guitar in traditional music. We will look at the dynamic, rhythmic, and harmonic capabilities of the instrument. The class material will be applicable to all tunings, but especially helpful for students using Drop D or DADGAD. Students are encouraged to bring in specific tunes that they would like to work on.

4009: Intermediate Quebec-style Guitar (Dominic Desrochers)

Learn some tunes and techniques from La Belle Province! This intermediate-level class will explore a number of Québécois tunes, with particular attention to chording. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but some chord sheets for tunes will be provided. Students should make sure that their guitars are in standard tuning.

HARP

***Please note that limited harps are available to be borrowed for classes 3011 and 4010. Please contact the Celtic Office upon registration to request a reservation (first come, first served). If no harp is reserved, students are responsible for bringing their own.**

1009: Beginner Irish Slow Ais (Cormac de Barra)

Coming soon!

2013: Intermediate Irish Technique (Cormac de Barra)

Coming soon!

3010: Intermediate Arranging (Cormac de Barra)

Coming soon!

3011: Introductory Celtic Harp* (Sharon Johnston)

For those with absolutely no experience with the harp. Learn the fundamentals of the harp, including hand positioning and special effects to create beautiful music immediately. You will learn some Celtic tunes and/or simple accompaniment, play with the group at your own pace, and learn how to improvise over a simple left-hand pattern. Music will be taught by ear, but sheet music will also be provided.

NOTE: A limited number of harps are available for student use, but **MUST** be booked in advance. Please contact the Celtic Office for more information or to request a reservation. If no harp is reserved, students are responsible for bringing their own.

4010: Beginner Irish Tunes on the Harp* (Lexie Boatright)

This class will focus on dance tunes in the Irish style such as jigs, reels, and hornpipes, and will look at how to build an accessible left-hand arrangement. There will be a focus on the “how” and “why” of the right-hand...

...fingering system, as well as basic chord structures in the left hand. Lexie loves helping students to get “unstuck” and to make things make sense, so this is a good class for anyone who has felt that Irish tunes are inaccessible or confusing. Students are highly encouraged to bring a recording device and a notebook and pen. (cont. next page)

NOTE: A limited number of harps are available for student use, but MUST be booked in advance. Please contact the Celtic Office for more information or to request a reservation. If no harp is reserved, students are responsible for bringing their own.

PIANO

***Please note that limited pianos are available to be borrowed for each of the piano classes. Please contact the Celtic Office upon registration to request to reserve an instrument (first come, first served). If no piano is reserved/available, students are responsible for bringing their own. Additionally, please note that pianos are ONLY available for the piano classes, and cannot be moved from the room or reserved for non-piano classes, including ensemble classes. Students wishing to play piano in an ensemble class will need to bring their own keyboard.**

1010: Intermediate Cape Breton Style Piano* (Maggie MacDonald)

An introduction and expansion on traditional Cape Breton style piano accompaniment or “chording.” This class will focus on the unique rhythms, bass runs, and chord progressions that best compliment the Cape Breton style of fiddling/bagpiping. It is recommended that students have a basic knowledge of theory and chord structures. Students are encouraged to bring writing utensils and recording devices, as well as a set of headphones.

2014: Beginner Piano Accompaniment* (Sophie Joint)

Learn the basics of piano accompaniment! The piano is wonderfully versatile, and as an accompanying instrument it often bridges the gap between percussion, bass, and tune players. In this class, students will learn how to build chord progressions, come up with grooves for different tune types, and keep things simple but interesting. We will also discuss the differences in playing with a soloist vs. a group. The class will be taught in a way that benefits readers of notation as well as students who learn by ear. Please bring note-taking materials, a recording device, and all of your questions!

3012: Intermediate Irish Tunes on Piano* (Ryan Ward)

Learn to play traditional Irish tunes on the piano! This class will start out with some simple, common session tunes, and may branch out into more complex and varied tunes depending on class interest and ability. It will also look at fingering, ornamentation, and technique as needed. The class will cover basic chord structure for Irish tunes, how to choose chords to accompany melody, and some basic theory, with a focus on developing a competent and comfortable left-hand accompaniment for the right-hand melody. Students should have some...

...prior experience playing piano and should be comfortable playing simple tunes. The class will be taught by ear and with ABC notation, and some sheet music will be available at students' request. Students are encouraged to bring a recording device, something to take notes with, and their questions – the more students ask questions and express interest, the more rewarding the class will be! Sustain pedals are recommended but not required.

4011: Advanced Accompaniment* (Danny Collins)

In this advanced-level class, students will learn how to accompany Irish tunes using a variety of approaches and styles. Sheet music will be available, and students are encouraged to bring a recording device to class.

VOCAL

1011: Vocal Harmony: Songs of the Sea (Eamon O'Leary & Jefferson Hamer)

This class will introduce students to some of the rich repertoire of songs of the sea, including songs from Ireland, England, Scotland, and North America. While the main focus will be on repertoire, the class will also explore arrangement and harmony. Students are welcome to bring instruments if desired, but please note that this is primarily a song class. The class will be taught mainly by ear, so audio recording for personal use is welcome. Some lyric sheets will be provided as well.

2015: Cantos Gallegos – Galician Songs from Celtic Spain (Maria Gomez)

Expand your repertoire with some songs from Celtic Spain! Located in the northwest Iberian Peninsula, Galicia has a rich song tradition. This class will introduce students to traditional Galician songs in a relaxed and informative atmosphere. No prior experience is necessary! Song sheets will be provided, and students are encouraged to bring a notebook and pen and a recording device.

2016: The Child Ballads (Eamon O'Leary & Jefferson Hamer)

In this engaging class, delve into some of the songs from this famous 19th-century collection, originally gathered in England and Scotland but with variants in many cases sung across Ireland and North America as well. This class will be primarily taught by ear, so audio recording for personal use is welcome. Some lyrics sheets will also be provided.

3013: Vocal Techniques to Increase Your Confidence (Hilary James) ****FULL!****

Singers of all abilities are invited to join Hilary in this relaxed exploration of the possibilities of the singing voice. Increase your confidence and discover your natural voice with the help of vocal warm-ups and tips for breath control, singing in tune, flexibility, posture, and how to put a song across. And, by the way, many simple vocal exercises can be found hidden in well known folk songs!

3014: Vocal Harmony: Songs of Murder & Mayhem (Cassie & Maggie MacDonald)

Don't let the title of this workshop dissuade you! Found among the tumultuous landscape of murder ballads and songs of tragedy are some of the best opportunities for poignant storytelling, compelling harmonies, and examination of the resilience of the human spirit. This class will focus on repertoire and arrangements for popular and lesser-known traditional songs with a particular focus on vocal harmony and performance. A recording device, writing tools, and a strong constitution are recommended.

4012: Vocal Harmony: Singing as a Group (Hilary James) ****FULL!****

Enjoy the pleasure of singing with a group – all levels and types of voices are welcome, the more the merrier! Explore the variety of songs from across the British folk tradition and take a peek beyond with ballads, sea shanties, lullabies, comic songs, and more. Singing will be largely by ear with melodies and simple harmonies.

Some lyric sheets and MP3s will be sent to students in advance via an email from the Celtic Office. Students are encouraged to bring print-outs of the song sheets to class with them.

4013: Mi'kmaq Songs (Morgan Toney)

In this class, students will learn three Mi'kmaq songs: The Mi'kmaq Honour Song, Msit No'kmaq (All of My Relations), and The Ko'jua (Celebration Dance). Morgan will also discuss the history and cultural context of these important songs, and students will learn not only the song component of The Ko'jua, but the ancient dance that has been passed down through generations!

ENSEMBLE

All instruments welcome!

1012: Quebec Band & Body Percussion (Bon Débarras)

Get ready for a joyful time! Bon Débarras invites you to join us in experimenting with movement, body and foot percussion, singing, and playing, as the class forms a big new band of musicians, singers, and dancers and learns how to bring together everyone's talents. The class will learn tunes, original mouth reels, foot percussion, and simple body percussion choreography from Bon Débarras' own repertoire. Students can choose to learn some or all of the parts being taught.

All levels of experience and instruments are welcome! Please bring your instrument(s) and/or dance shoes, a recording device, something to take notes, your questions, and your smile. We can't wait to share our passion for movement, poetry, and creation with you!

2017: Groovin' as a Group (The Consequences)

Irish traditional music with a modern flare! This class will include topics such as picking tunes, creating arrangements, working with the group's strengths, and collaborating together as a team. ABCs and notation will be provided upon request. Please bring: your instrument(s)/dance shoes, a recording device, something to take notes, your questions, any ideas for tunes that we can play together for the showcase performance at the end of the week, and some good vibes. We can't wait to see you there!

2018: Playing for a Ceilidh (Abigail Pryde)

Learn how to join in the ceilidh! In this class, students will learn a variety of Scottish tunes that can be played for ceilidh dancing. The class will also explore how the types of tunes and tempos relate to the kind of dance. Additionally, Abigail will highlight some of the stylistic differences to keep in mind if you are a classically trained player coming to traditional music. In this class, we will stick to standard tuning, and the class will be taught in a way that benefits both readers of notation and those who learn by ear. Students are encouraged to bring their questions and ideas, a capo (if applicable), a recording device, note-taking materials, and shoes that they can dance in.

3015: Irish Kitchen Party (Goitse) ****FULL!****

Get ready for some rollicking Irish tunes! In this intermediate-and-up class, students will learn how to arrange a piece of music from the ground up, and how to function in an ensemble setting. The class will be taught primarily by ear, but sheet music will be provided when applicable.

3016: Tunes from the Archives (Ryan Young & Gillebrìde MacMillan)

There are a wealth of Scottish songs and tunes preserved in archived recordings and old books and collections, but it can be tricky to figure out how to find them and what to do with them once you have. This course will take a practical look at these topics. Students will be introduced to some of the archives and other old collections of music, and will learn about ways to adapt the music to suit different instruments/abilities. Some transcribing skills will be taught, and the class will learn some of the repertoire and explore ways to interpret these tunes and songs to bring them back to life.

Students should bring a personal device (tablet/phone/computer) to use to access the archives. A basic ability to read music is recommended but not required, and all instruments (including voice!) and abilities are welcome. Audio/visual recording for personal use is welcome, and some sheet music and resources will be provided.

4014: Scottish Session (Heron Valley)

Everyone is welcome to grab this chance to play together, create together, and jump into the fun of playing in a group! Students will learn some Scottish pipe/fiddle tunes and songs, and work together to create a track. Whether you sing, play the pipes, or thump out the low notes, you'll have a role to play in the final track! We will stick to standard tuning, and will teach in a way that benefits both readers of notation and those who...

...learn by ear. Students are encouraged to bring their questions and ideas, a capo (if applicable), a recording device, note-taking materials, and shoes that they can dance in – that’s right, this class may contain a wee bit of dancing!

4015: Carolan Ensemble (Simon Mayor)

Join Simon to learn several tunes by the famous Irish composer Turlough O’Carolan, with the somewhat adventurous aim of perfecting the ensemble sound to become Canada’s best rehearsed folk orchestra by the end of the week! Bring your fiddle, viola, cello, bass, mandolin, flute, tin whistle – or maybe something else? Simon will provide written arrangements in 2, 3, or 4 parts, including bass lines, in standard notation or tablature. Come and join in the fun!

Take a look at the music in advance so that we can jump straight into the good bit! You can also hear MP3s and see video.

Find it here: mandolin.co.uk/goderich/

SONGWRITING & THEORY

All levels and musical backgrounds welcome: these classes are writing-focused and generally are not geared to one type of instrument.

1013: Harmonic Theory for Traditional Music (Conal O’Kane)

For any accompanying instruments, at any level! This class will examine how to identify the fundamental chords to accompany traditional music. We will also look at how to find ways to vary these chords to add colour and movement to the music. Bring your accompanying instrument (guitar, bouzouki, harp, piano, etc.) and get ready to take your accompaniment skills up a notch or two.

2019: Composing Trad Songs (Maggie MacDonald)

Composing Traditional songs... Oxymoron? This class will explore timeless themes and melodies that define the traditional music cannon and will explore questions such as “What makes a trad song sound trad?” “How can we add to this vast catalogue in a meaningful way?” and more. Bring your favourite book of poetry, nursery rhymes, short stories and/or any reference material as we spend a week writing together and learning new trad-inspired songwriting “tips and tricks.” No previous songwriting/singing experience necessary.

3017: Composition Workshop (Morgan Toney)

In this class, Morgan will teach several of his own compositions and explain some of his writing process. Students are invited to bring their own compositions (songs or tunes) for some workshopping and feedback.

4016: Tune Writing (Jake James)

Learn the craft of writing new tunes! In this class, we'll focus on the different aspects of tune writing and will go through the process of writing a tune together. Students are welcome to bring their finished or unfinished tunes for a bit of feedback and workshopping. All instrumental/musical backgrounds are welcome in this open-level class.

LANGUAGE

1014: Introductory Irish Gaelic (Kylie Hendriks)

Learn the basics of Irish Gaelic! This class will cover the fundamentals of the language and will introduce you to some basic vocabulary and phrases to get you started on your language-learning journey. Students should bring a pencil and a notebook. Please note that this class is intended for students with absolutely no experience with Irish Gaelic.

4017: Introductory Scottish Gaelic & Gaelic Songs (Gillebrìde MacMillan)

Learn the basics of Scottish Gaelic language and songs from the real-life bard from hit series Outlander! This class will introduce you to the fundamentals of greetings, pronunciation, and basic grammar, and will also include an introduction to Gaelic song. No prior knowledge is needed! Song sheets will be provided, and students are encouraged to bring a notebook and pen to take notes, as well as a recording device.

CRAFT ART

***Please make sure to review these descriptions or the “Craft Art Notes” on the 2023 Celtic College Schedule to find information about applicable materials fees for craft classes. Students are responsible for bringing these additional fees on the first day of classes, to be paid directly to the craft class instructor(s).**

1015: Silversmithing (Jason Bellchamber)

Learn the fundamentals of silversmithing through a hands-on, project-based class! Students will complete two projects:

- 1) Students have the choice of carving a wax ring with a simple pattern, to be cast into a silver ring OR making a Thor's hammer pendant – both projects will be hand-finished.
- 2) Students will make a hand-fabricated sterling silver pendant, in their choice of either a Greenman or a Celtic Goddess design (or both, if we have time!)

Please note: this course requires some hand strength and uses repetitive motion to drill, hammer, and saw. The course runs over two periods, and it is held off-site at Elizabeth's Art Gallery (54 Courthouse Square, Goderich...

...ON). Additionally, please note that there is a \$60.00 materials fee, which should be paid to the instructor on the first day.

1016: Felt & Fabric: The Art of Creating a Bowl (Roslyn Cook and Ruth McLean)

Explore different mediums in this hands-on class! Students will make two bowls: one will use a wet felt technique, and the second will use materials and glue. The class will explore different techniques for embellishing students' bowls, including needle felting, embroidery, stencilling a Celtic symbol, or other techniques depending on time and student interest.

Please note that this course runs over two periods, and that a \$25.00 materials fee applies, which should be paid directly to the instructors on the first day of class.

1019: Drawing Dancers & Musicians (Hilary James)

All abilities welcome! Bring your favourite choice of drawing media and develop your own mini-masterpieces of music in movement. Hilary will guide you through different approaches to capturing the essence of performance from simple, free flourishes of line to dramatic splashes of colour. There are many examples of famous artists who have taken up the challenge: Toulouse Lautrec, Degas, Matisse, and many others painted the dance. So keep your pencils sharp this week – there will be plenty of real-life models to draw on!

For this class, students should bring their favourite choice of drawing media, from traditional sketchpads, paper (tinted or plain white), pencils, pastels, charcoal, or watercolour pencils to iPads, iPencils, styluses and tablets. Please also bring any favourite reference photos or drawings of musicians and dancers. Your camera or mobile phone will be useful to capture willing performer subjects over the week.

1017: Majestic Mosaic Mirrors (Elena Martoglio)

Ever been curious to try mosaic art? Want to learn how to cut and shape tile and glass? In this course, students will play with a variety of colourful and sparkly tiles to create a beautiful mosaic mirror. Learn to use hand-held tools to cut and shape glass, choose a design and adorn a frame with all sorts of fun materials, and then complete the project by grouting and polishing. Take home a spectacular mirror that could easily become your next conversation starter!

Please note that there is a \$65.00 materials fee, which should be paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class.

2020: The Adventure of Celtic Knotwork Spiral Patterns (David Rankine)

Master these fascinating designs in this fun workshop. Dave's easy-to-learn method demystifies knot and spiral patterns and will allow you to create your own complex designs. Please bring your own colour medium (pencil crayons, markers or paint). Please note that there is no materials fee for this class.

3018: Silversmithing (Jason Bellchamber) ****FULL!****

Please see the description for class 1015 (above). Class 3018 is a repeat section, to permit more students to learn about silversmithing. Content will be repeated, so students should sign up for either 1015 or 3018, but not both.

Please note that, like 1015, 3018 runs over two periods, is hosted at Elizabeth's Art Gallery (54 Courthouse Square, Goderich), and is subject to a \$60.00 materials fee that should be paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class.

3020: Celtic Illuminated Letter Design (David Rankine)

Dave's extensive knowledge combined with an easy-to-learn method will allow students to produce their own "Book Of Kells" style Celtic letters and initial pages. This is the course you wish you had taken in high school, as it looks at letterform, design, and calligraphy in a totally different way. The course includes elements of knot pattern and spiral design along with elements of calligraphy. This is where letterform meets abstract design! Please bring your own colour medium (pencil crayons, markers, or paints).

Please note that there is a \$15.00 materials fee, which should be paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class.

4018: Mosaic Stepping Stones (Elena Martoglio)

Add a touch of sparkle to your garden! In this hands-on course, students will create three stepping stones to complement a path or portion of their garden. The class will begin the first class by embellishing one stone, and then move on to mix concrete to make new stones for the next classes. Learn mosaic secrets, work with hand-held tools to cut and shape tiles, and take home three spectacular new stepping stones!

Please note that there is a \$45.00 materials fee, which should be paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class.

DANCE

1018: Irish Social Dance (Maureen Mulvey)

With experienced dancer and caller Maureen Mulvey, learn some of the dances common in Irish culture. Depending on numbers and class interest, these may include intricate 8-person set dances, sociable and pattern-driven ceili dances, or smooth, partner-based waltzes and Gay Gordons. No experience or partner required! Just bring your sense of fun, laughter, and desire to make friends. Students should wear dancing shoes if they have them, or otherwise comfortable shoes with a leather sole (running shoes will stick and squeak).

2021: Intermediate Cape Breton Step Dance (Cassie MacDonald)

Cape Breton step dancing is a unique blend of several different dancing traditions, which has evolved into its own unique and distinct style closely tied to the traditional music of Cape Breton. This class will provide an...

...introduction and expansion on basic reel and strathspey steps with a focus on using these steps as a form of musical percussion to compliment the music. Tap shoes (if you already have them) or leather-soled shoes are recommended. The class will also touch on traditional “Square Sets,” the social group dancing still popular in Cape Breton today.

3021: Intermediate Giges from Québec (Dominic Desrochers)

In this class, students will learn about Québec step dancing style, with a focus on movement steps and the basic steps found in figure dances such as brandy, jarretière, and spandy. This class will also help students to further develop their “art of the reel,” by looking at a greater repertoire of steps, learning about triplets, and paying some attention to bringing up the tempo. Depending on student ability and interest, the class may also look at some Ottawa Valley jigs or valse-clog. Students should make sure to bring dance shoes.

4019: Beginning Step Dancing: An Introduction to Traditional Percussive Step Dancing (Sheila Graziano)

Learn the basics of percussive step dancing in this fun and energetic class! Students will begin by learning how to get good, clear sounds and rhythms from the feet. Once the basic moves are in place, we can explore how to set some steps to a reel, jig, or waltz. Please bring leather-soled shoes (with low heels), well-worn tennis shoes, or shoes with taps on them. No sandals, flip-flops, heels, or open-toe shoes, please. Recording of the workshops for personal use is welcome and encouraged!

SOUND

3022: Sound Systems and Mixing (Steve Meacher and Travis Teed)

Learn the basics of setting up and running a PA system, how to develop and interpret technical riders and sound plots, and an introduction to sound equipment. This class runs from 1.30 to 4.30 pm every day at the Livery Theatre (35 South St, Goderich). Students will also have the opportunity to run the sound at each evening’s Teacher Mini-Concerts.