Applied Lessons: Violin and Viola
Syllabus

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Course Description and Learning Outcomes: Between 1-3 hours of credit, half-hour to an hour instruction in violin or viola per week. One credit for secondary instrument or minors, non-majors or undeclared majors, 2-3 credits for string majors. Placement audition required. The student will demonstrate the following:

- Knowledge of applicable solo materials
- Fundamentals of pedagogy as it pertains to applied study
- Ability to prepare and perform a solo at a high level

Required Materials:
- Instrument and bow in good-working condition; including strings and bow hair
- Sheet music as assigned must be purchased or obtained within one week of assigned
- Metronome/Tuner
- Rosin and cleaning cloth
- Notebook for use as practice journal

Course Objectives: The main purpose of the class is to help the student understand the techniques of the applied instrument and the ways of using them effectively in practice. The process includes self-analysis as well as searching for solutions to the technical problems that hinder the student’s development as a musician. A better technical and musical understanding of the instrument is an essential and ultimate goal.

The students will be covering the following fundamentals:
1. Scales and arpeggios
2. Technical studies and etudes as assigned, focusing on specific areas:
   - double stops
   - positions and shifting
   - bowing styles: detache, martele, staccato, spiccatto, ricochet, sautille
   - agility and strength of left hand
   - development of sound- vibrato and dynamic control
3. Standard Repertoire from all periods of music
   - Musicianship (appropriate stylistic approach to each piece)
   - Beauty of tone
   - Accuracy in rhythm
   - Accuracy in intonation
   - Technique
4. Efficient Practicing
   - Practice techniques
Practice Policy: Minimum daily individual practice time should equal the number of credit hours you receive for the applied lesson.

Practice Journal: To facilitate efficient practicing, practice techniques will be introduced in lessons and those techniques should be applied to individual practice. Keeping a daily practice journal of those techniques and goals will be required to be shown at weekly lessons.

Studio Recital
Your requirements are as follows:
• Begin to prepare your piece immediately after assigned
• Meet with your accompanist at least two weeks prior to the recital
• Play with the accompanist for me at least seven days prior to the recital
*Date of Recital to be announced

Juries
The final examination, or jury, for applied lessons will be a performance in front of the string faculty, which are typically given at the beginning of final exam week. You will play for the string faculty and receive commentary from each. Music Majors are required to perform a jury each semester. **Final jury grades count for 15% of the student’s final grade.**

Attendance Policy
Punctual attendance is expected at all class meetings of private lessons and studio classes.

Recital Attendance Policy
Attendance at recitals by members of the strings studios and designated faculty recitals is required. You must notify me of any conflicts ahead of time. Required recitals will be posted at my office, by the second week of classes.

Excused Absences
Excused absences include only the following: official university functions (with proper documentation from the relevant professor/department submitted ahead of time), family emergency, and illness. In order to receive an excused absence for illness, injury or other extenuating circumstance, the student must:
• Submit an official, dated note from the attending doctor, parent, or supervisor, depending on the nature of absence. Documentation must be submitted promptly, and in advance when possible.
• If the student intends to be absent more than one consecutive class, s/he is expected to notify the instructor in writing before the second missed class.

Classes missed due to an excused absence will be scheduled at the instructor’s discretion and convenience.
Unexcused Absences
Unexcused absences will result in a ZERO for the class grade for that week. Two unexcused absences will result in lowering the final semester grade by one letter. Each subsequent absence will lower the final grade by an additional letter.

Tardiness
Extensive and habitual tardiness will adversely affect your final grade. Late arrival to class is discouraged. Three tardy arrivals to class equal one unexcused absence. Class begins at the top the hour according to the instructor’s clock time; students entering the class after top of the hour are late, or “tardy.”

Grading Policy
Grading is based on overall progress and preparedness, not on talent. Your final grade at the end of the semester will be based on the following formula:

1. Average of Lesson Grades: 70% (for non-majors- 85%)
   *the weekly grade will be based on preparation of assignments. Here is the significance of letter grades for weekly lessons:
   A: thorough preparation of all assignments
   B: preparation of all assignments but with some aspects not thoroughly learned
   C: some assignments not prepared
   D: student is totally unprepared
   F: unexcused absence
2. Your involvement in attending, performing and/or participating in discussion in Studio Class, Convocation and/or string recitals by faculty and students: 15%
3. Performance in final string jury (if applicable): 15% *non-majors will not have a jury, unless unable to perform in String Studio Recital)

Withheld Grades (A-54)
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
*Important note: If a student has not returned materials (sheet music, mouthpieces, ligatures, etc.) borrowed from the instructor by the end of the semester, he or she will receive a WH until those materials are returned. If these materials are lost, they must be replaced at the student’s expense.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1):
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).