Syllabus for Applied Lessons: Violin and Viola

MUP 109, 119 and 309

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Course Description:

One semester hour of credit for secondary instrument of minors, non-majors or undeclared majors, half-hour of instruction in violin or viola per week plus one-hour studio class or convocation weekly. Students are expected to practice assigned materials individually that may include etudes, exercises, daily routines, ensemble music, and/or solos one hour daily, six days per week for a total of six hours of outside preparation each week. Students are also expected to attend or perform in recitals. May be repeated for credit, may not be taken for audit.

Attendance

You are expected to attend and be well prepared at every scheduled lesson. Be prepared with all the assigned work even though it may not all be heard at each lesson. You are allowed one unprepared lesson each semester due to term papers, exams, family emergencies or illness. If you are so ill that you should not attend a lesson, please inform me as early as possible, so that I can make good use of your lesson time and so that your lesson can be conveniently rescheduled. You are also expected to attend studio class every Friday at 1:00 PM. This is a forum in which students will have the opportunity to perform for each other, and we will also have discussions and presentations on relevant string topics.

Grading procedures

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: 90%**
   *your 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: 10%**
Grading of the applied lesson is highly subjective by nature. Primary factors upon which you will be graded are: lesson preparation; attitude; musical improvement; studio participation and material completed. Most of the weight of the semester grade will be based on lesson preparation and musical growth. Your progress will be judged based on growth, improvement in basic musical skills, completion of assigned materials and work on repertoire, scales and etudes as assigned. You are also expected to attend studio class, every Friday at 1pm in the small Recital Hall.

**Minimum daily individual practice time should equal the number of credit hours you receive for the applied lesson.**

**Recital Attendance**

Attendance at recitals by members of the strings studios and designated faculty recitals is required. You must make me aware of any conflicts before the event. Required recitals will be posted on the calendar in D2L.

**Program Learning Outcomes**

*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

**Course Objectives**

Applied lessons will be structured to introduce you to the study materials and solo literature for the violin or viola. Emphasis will be on teaching the fundamentals of upper string performance and pedagogy. You will cover 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: détaché, martelé, staccato, spiccato, ricochet, sautillé
   - 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. Learning to approach your instrument in a way that is as relaxed and tension–free as possible, reducing the risk of injury.
Office Hours: by appt.

Lesson Expectations

Be on time, be warmed-up (if possible) and ready to work. For the lesson to be successful, it is your responsibility to be prepared. Accordingly, excuses such as these will not be tolerated:
I did not have time to practice. (MAKE TIME…THIS IS A CLASS!!!)
I was involved with social/service organizations.
I played too much in orchestra.
I had to work. (SO DO I!)
I left my music at home.

STUDIO CLASS RECITALS

As a music minor, you are not required to perform in studio recitals, but your attendance is mandatory and part of your grade. Dates for these recitals will be posted on the calendar in D2L.

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

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)

Ordinarily, 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 terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
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/.