

Course Syllabus

Violin performance study
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Violin Study (1 or 2 credits)

Progressing on an instrument requires work on several levels. These include:

Weekly lessons. This is where technical and musical concepts are introduced and goals are set. Exercises, scales, etudes, and repertoire at an appropriate level of difficulty are selected to foster musical and technical growth. This is also where the direction of the work is steered and checked for adequate progress.

Graded events. There will be at least three graded assignments given throughout the semester, with at least one of them being a written essay. Other assignments will be theoretical in nature, demonstrating skills in harmony and analysis.

Practice. Mastery of a musical instrument occurs through daily practice. This is where the concepts introduced at the lessons become integrated into your playing. It is expected that students taking 1/2-hour weekly lessons shall practice a minimum of a 1/2-hour daily; students taking 1-hour weekly lessons shall practice a minimum of 1 hour daily.

Inspiration. As in any field of endeavor, learning an instrument requires exposing oneself to examples of excellence in music. It is expected that students listen to a variety of recordings, including ones of the instrument being studied, and especially ones of repertoire being studied. In addition, students are expected to attend live professional performances.

Performance. The true sense of one's progress on an instrument comes from performing for others to hear. Each semester students shall perform a sample of their work. This can take place, as appropriate, in departmental recitals or concerts, or in performance classes.

Department of Music Performance Study Attendance Policy

- Lessons per semester – 13
- The department of music is not obligated to schedule make-up lessons for those missed due to student non-attendance (including illness, vacation, etc.). In the event of an instructor cancellation, a make-up date will be scheduled.
- If a student registers after the first (or second) scheduled lesson, that lesson (or lessons) will not be taught, nor count against the student's grade or attendance.
- An instructor may substitute one instructor-led event for a lesson, such as a studio recital/workshop
- **The instructor may reschedule lessons in accordance with each student's official class schedule.**
- **Students wishing to trade lessons with other students in the same studio are welcome to do so and should make those arrangements on their own. Please inform the instructor by email after the trade has been made.**

General Lesson Protocol

Students are expected to attend every lesson with their instrument and music. Be on time and well-prepared.

Grading Policy

Grades will be assigned based on the level of effort by the student in the above areas, as well as on progress made. Attendance at all lessons is assumed, as is regular and consistent practice as described above. More than one unexcused absence will result in a lowering of one letter grade/ per absence.

Expected Learning Outcomes

On completion of Music 1519 students will be able to:

- Perform repertoire that demonstrates sustained technical development, allowing for communication of music ideas unimpeded by technical constraints
- Play with mastery of the basic bow strokes and expressive bowing vocabulary
- Use a variety of sounds and tone colors
- Perform with consistent intonation and navigate around the fingerboard with fluid and accurate shifts.
- Perform with style and phrasing appropriate to the repertoire.
- Participate in a select ensemble.

Critical Understanding:

- Understand merits of interpretive and technical performance choices and support those choices in a statement or in response to questions at a performance exam.