MUSI-3189-001 String Techniques
Fall 2019
Wed, Fri. 10:00-10:50 A.M.

Instructor: Dr. José Flores
Office hours: Monday 9:00-11:00 Friday 9:00-10:00, 11:00-1:00
Office Location: CA 130
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Required Materials

Textbooks


Instruments

Students will be provided with the string instruments needed for the course. Each student will be responsible for any damage, or theft. If the student does not repair or replace the instrument by the last day of class, the instructor will give the student a failing grade for the course.

Course Description

The course will focus on pedagogical and logistic needs for the instrumental music teacher in the public schools. Students will experience the instruments of the bowed string family by playing each one of them for a portion of the course session. Discussion on group class pedagogy, rehearsal techniques, and classroom management.

Course Objective

At the completion of the course, the students will be able to:

- Perform three major scales in one octave on each string instrument.
- Perform level one to level two literature displaying appropriate and correct technique on the violin, viola, cello, and double bass. This includes:

  1. Bow Hold
  2. Instrument Hold and Posture
  3. Basic Bow Technique
  4. Basic Left Hand Technique
• Demonstrate knowledge of note reading in each of the instruments of the string family.
• Demonstrate knowledge of instrument care and maintenance, construction features of the bowed string family, specifications for ordering string instruments, and sources for purchasing these instruments.

Expectation and Grading

Each student will be tested on Violin, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. In addition, the student will be expected to demonstrate competency teaching one of the instruments to one individual for the final examination.

Violin  15%
Viola   15%
Cello   15%
Double Bass  15%
Quizzes and homework  15%
Written Final Exam  25%

A portfolio with all handouts will be required to take the final exam. It should be turned in the day before the final exam. If the portfolio is not turned in, you will not be allowed to take the final exam. For each item missing in the portfolio I will deduct 2% of the final grade. The portfolio should also include corrected quizzes.

Grade Scale

A= 100-90    B= 89-80    C= 79-70    D= 69-60    F= 59-0

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. November 8th is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.
Statement of Academic Continuity

Recommended text or compose your own in the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

Islander Email Account

It is VERY IMPORTANT that you activate your Islander Email account, as it will serve as my primary means of correspondence with you. Throughout the semester, I will be sending emails sharing important information relating to the learning community and I want to ensure that you receive this information. For quick questions or minor issues, you may contact me via e-mail. For more complicated concerns or questions, please make use of my office hours or make an appointment to meet with me.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466 or log onto http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (available at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C2.01_student_grade_appeal_procedure.pdf). For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

Respect for Diversity

We are the most diverse campus, in terms of self-disclosed ethnic identity, in the Texas A&M system. This means that we are all meeting and working with people who are different from ourselves in terms of identity, whether that is defined by race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, and/or religion. Respecting and accepting people different than you is vital to your success in the class, on campus, and as a future professional in the global community.