

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

APPLIED STRINGS HANDBOOK

Violin	1300-4301
Viola	1305-4306
Cello	1307-4308
Bass	1315-4316
Guitar	1590-4591
Harp	1317-4318

1. COURSE OBJECTIVE

The objective of applied string instruction is to aid students in the comprehensive development of their instrumental abilities, both musical and technical. Students will begin at an assessed skill level and then work toward attaining the required competencies, as exemplified by their Junior and/or Senior Recital (required recitals differ depending on the student's particular program).

As a result of this course of study, students will be able to demonstrate:

1. mastery of fundamentals: correct sitting and hand positions, thorough knowledge of the fingerboard, and efficient finger movement.
2. proficient sight-reading skills.
3. thorough mastery of scales and arpeggios.
4. a thorough knowledge of major works for the student's instrument, as evidenced by performance of required etudes and repertoire.
5. the interpretive skills and stylistic awareness appropriate to the literature studied.

2. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. All lessons must be well prepared. String Majors should expect to practice a **minimum** of three hours a day (7 days a week), secondaries one hour a day, and non-majors a half-hour per day in order to make satisfactory progress. In addition to weekly progress, a mid-term and final jury will impact the student's grade.
2. The student must own (or have regular access to) an instrument.
3. The student must acquire assigned materials (scores, texts and methods).
4. The student must meet or exceed the competencies stated in the syllabus.

3. SCHEDULING OF LESSONS

Each string instructor will post blank scheduling sheets on their door at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to fill out one of these sheets and return it to the instructor at the beginning of the first week of classes. The teacher will then make the schedule and contact the student with his or her lesson time. Any students having difficulty determining the identity or location of their instructor should contact the String Area Coordinator, Dr. Richard Todd, at rtodd@tnstate.edu or 963.7753.

4. ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENT

String majors in the Bachelor of Science in Music Education and Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts degree programs must complete a minimum of seven semesters of ensemble that reflects the student's major applied area, as approved by the major applied teacher and the department head. Students in the Bachelor of Science in Commercial Music degree program must also enroll for a minimum of seven semesters in ensembles that reflect their major performing specialty.

String Ensembles

Orchestra
Guitar Ensemble
Cello Ensemble
Jazz Ensemble
Jazz Combo
Commercial Music Ensemble

5. REPERTOIRE AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

All applied string instructors stipulate semesterly repertoire and technical requirements on their syllabi. Music majors enrolled in string instruction must demonstrate mastery of these requirements in order to advance to the next performance level. The purpose of these requirements is to ensure that over the course of the degree, students will achieve a thorough knowledge of the major composers, styles, techniques and compositions associated with their instrument. As the stated requirements present minimum standards for acceptable achievement, students should strive to exceed them.

6. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

Recitals

The applied phase of each degree program culminates with a required recital. Students pursuing the B.S in Music Education or Liberal Arts will present a Senior Recital. Students pursuing the B.S. in Commercial Music Business or Technology tracks will

present a Junior Recital, and those pursuing the Commercial Performance track will present both a Junior Recital and a Senior Recital. Guidelines for each type of recital are available from Dr. Richard Todd at rtodd@tnstate.edu or 963.7753.

Recital Hearing

String students must pass a recital hearing before the string faculty at least two weeks prior to the recital date. Guidelines for recital hearings are available from Dr. Richard Todd at rtodd@tnstate.edu or 963.7753.

Commercial Styles and Performance Seminars

All string majors must perform in one of the seminars at least twice per semester.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Concerts and Recitals

String majors are required to attend recitals by String Faculty as well as other string majors. In addition, the student's instructor may require attendance at master classes or other musical events deemed to be of substantive value to the student's education.

GRADING POLICY

Weekly Progress

All string students receive a weekly grade that reflects their progress toward meeting goals established at the prior lesson. String instructors may, at their discretion, also require a periodic demonstration of satisfactory progress (for instance, at mid-semester) toward meeting of competencies stated in the syllabus. For music majors, this demonstration of competencies will culminate in the String Juries. Non-majors are not required to perform in the Jury.

String Juries

All music majors studying applied strings must perform in the String Juries at the end of the semester. At this time the student will demonstrate satisfaction of required competencies to the String Faculty, as stipulated by the student's applied instructor. Students who do not satisfy the competencies will not be allowed to move to the next performance level.

Lesson Attendance

Students are expected to attend all lessons. In the event of illness or emergency, the student should make every effort to inform the instructor of his or her absence prior to the

lesson. Unexcused absences will lower the student's grade, as stated in the University Student Handbook.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Music Department, in conjunction with the Office of Disabled Student Services, makes reasonable accommodations for qualified students with medically documented disabilities. If you need an accommodation, please call Dan Steely of TSU's Disabled Student Services Office at 963-7400(phone) or 963-5051(fax).