

Music Department  
Texas A&M University - Commerce  
Syllabus for Applied Strings  
MUS 149. 151. Fall 2013

**Mission Statement**

The Music Department of Texas A&M University – Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

Instructor: Charlotte Moellering  
Room 220, Music Building  
[orchmo13@gmail.com](mailto:orchmo13@gmail.com)  
214-796-4086

**University**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (**Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.**)

**Students with Disabilities**

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 have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library  
Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**Student Learning Objectives:** the student will:

- 1) Demonstrate the basics of musical performance with special attention to rhythm, tone quality, range, musical phrasing, intonation, and style;
  - 2) Demonstrate the ability to perform music from different stylistic periods;
  - 3) Demonstrate the ability to perform music in varied key signatures, keys, and meter signatures;
  - 4) Demonstrate the ability to perform all major and minor scales in the designated format
- Course Description and Expectations:

Lessons will occur in the Music Building every week, unless prior arrangements have been made. Please be warmed up and on time. Lesson times will also be scheduled by the 2<sup>nd</sup> class day. Be fully prepared for each lesson: mentally, physically, technically. Please have all necessary materials. You will be expected to learn assigned repertoire and etudes.

**Objective:**

Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass lessons are designed to improve the basic fundamentals of string instrument playing and to expose the student to all extremes of musicianship. Lessons will assist students in the development of:

1. tone, 2. technical & rhythmical accuracy, 3. scales, 4. etudes, 5. solo repertoire, 6. orchestral excerpts, 7. mind and body awareness (physical and mental), and 8. performance skills.

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to attend all lessons. Absences from lessons will be made up at the discretion of the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of a legitimate absence, and to secure any assignments from instructor or other students. If you know that you must miss a lesson, please give me advanced notice (24 hours minimum via email or phone call) so that we can reschedule (if possible—make-ups are **not** guaranteed). Lessons missed due to student vacations taken during the term will not be made up. The only excuses for missing a lesson are illness and family emergencies. If you do not give me notification in advance, you will receive a "0" for the missed lesson. After 1 absence, your final grade will be dropped by one (1) full letter grade.

**Required Materials:**

1. An instrument in good working condition
2. A Metronome
3. A Tuner
4. Music: Any method books and solo pieces to be announced with the instructor.
5. A notebook and pencil

**Grading:**

Grades are based on attendance, performance, preparedness, and progress.

Students will be evaluated on a percentage basis from the following areas:

1. Weekly private lessons - Student will receive a grade for each lesson. This includes scales, tone production, technique, etudes, orchestral excerpts, solo repertoire, and any special assignments designated by myself. Lessons will count for 50% of the student's final semester grade.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make exceptions and adjustments to the course policies on a case-by-case basis, to accommodate particular circumstances.

**The applied instructor selects literature and plans lessons in a logical sequence specifically designed to prepare each student to meet the stated student learning outcomes. Thus, the literature and skills addressed in each lesson will vary according to each student's experience in performance repertoire and technical strengths and weaknesses. In practice, after assessing a student's skills and needs in the early lessons, the applied instructor often provides a more detailed overview of the semester's activities; however, this overview is specific to that student and the sequential activities are contingent upon that student's continued progress.**

Suggested Readings:

Bruser, Madeline. The Art of Practicing.

Green, Barry. The Inner Game of Music