Course Description
A study of the curriculum, literature, materials, performance and pedagogical techniques relating to the instruction of stringed orchestral instruments at the elementary and secondary levels. This course is designed for Music Education majors, and will focus on the development of the skills necessary for use in the instrumental music classroom.

Learning Objectives
1. Developing creative capacities
2. Learning fundamental principles of music, instruction, and string technique
3. Developing skills and competencies expected of a professional musician and teacher

Course Objectives
Students enrolled in MUS 134 will:
1. become familiar with instructional tools and strategies used in the orchestra classroom
2. learn and use appropriate performance techniques on all stringed instruments
3. gain an understanding of the scope and sequence of the string program, their effect on the development of the student, and the ability to relate these concepts using specific goals, objectives and repertoire in the curriculum
4. initiate and respond to ideas concerning recruitment and retention of students in an orchestral program

Evaluation and Grading
Students in MU 134 will be evaluated on the following criteria:
1. a series of playing tests, to be announced at least one class period in advance, covering repertoire from class sources (25%)
2. class assignments, which will consist of playing assignments, in-class quizzes, short papers on topics discussed in class, and short reviews of articles from applicable sources, to be due as assigned throughout the semester (10%)
3. Teaching tests on each instrument studied in class, dates TBA (20%)
4. a Midterm examination, date TBA, covering all materials discussed in class, assigned in the reading or found in supplemental material mentioned in
class (10%)
5. a Final examination covering all material discussed in class and assigned readings (15%)
6. attendance and participation (20%)

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Text

*Essential Elements 2000 for Strings, Book I*-Allen, Gillespie, and Tellejohn-Hayes

**Course Outline**

**Week 1:** Course Introduction, Instrument I checkout
**Week 2-5:** Instrument I work, classroom techniques, equipment expectations
**Week 6-9:** Instrument II work, repertoire, Midterm Review
**Week 10-13:** Instrument III work, recruitment, retention
**Week 14-15:** Review, advanced techniques

**Instrument handling/usage**

Due to the nature of this course, students will be provided a violin, viola, cello, or bass for use during their respective units. All methods instruments will be held in methods’ lockers and any additional items (books, other instruments, music) will not be allowed. Since students are borrowing property under the control of the university for this course, the methods’ lockers and instruments are subject to search and seizure at any time by any member of the Music Department Faculty. Any instrument collected by a faculty member may be returned to the student for a fee of $20.00/offense. Students are solely responsible for the maintenance and accidental damage coverage of the instrument while on loan for this course. Should the instrument be lost or stolen, the student is responsible for the entire cost of a new method instrument.

**Music Department Mission Statement**

The Music Department of Texas A&M-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.

**University Statements**

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
Room 132 Gee Library
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835; fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu