

Instructor:**Mailbox:****Phone:****Office:****Office Hours:****Course Chair:** Melissa Howe**Description:** Functional study of string instruments. Technical fundamentals of class instruction in music education. Use of representative elementary/secondary school methods and materials.**Course Objective:** Basic production and technical skills on various instruments is an important study for Music Education majors. Upon successful completion of this course, you will have a basic working knowledge of the stringed instruments (violin, viola, cello, contrabass) sufficient to guide and instruct student learners of these instruments in the performance of public school musical repertoire. Effective teaching methods and instructional materials also will be discussed, specifically, the teaching of elementary school strings using the Suzuki method.**Required Text(s):** None required. Handouts will be distributed as necessary.**Coursework and Out-of-Class Preparation:** Weekly practice assignments will be made. In order to maintain satisfactory standing in this class, approximately four hours per week of out-of-class preparation are recommended.**Midterm:** TBA**Final:** TBA**Grading Criteria:**

A (90-100)	Superior, Exceptional; control of course material enables excellent production.
B (80-89)	Good; grasp of material enables above-average production.
C (70-79)	Average; assimilation of material enables acceptable production.
D (60-69)	Below Average; exposure to material enables poor, but passable production.
F (below 60)	Not Passing; assimilation of material insufficient to demonstrate acceptable productive capacity.

Final Grade Determination:	33%	Participation
	33%	Performance of weekly assignments
	33%	Midterm and final exams

Each of the three activities listed above will be counted as one-third of your final grade.

Attendance Policy: Unexcused absence(s) may result in a course grade of "F".**Deadline for Course Withdrawal:** 5:00 PM, Friday following Midterm Week. See Academic Calendar.

Withdrawal from a course may not be initiated after that date.

Withdrawal Policy: You may withdraw from this class by completing a *Student-Initiated Withdrawal from a Class* form at the Office of the Registrar. The withdrawal form must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar before the end of the 9th week of classes in Fall and Spring semesters, or the end of the 8th week in the 12-week Summer Session. If you submit the withdrawal form by the deadline, you will receive a grade of “W” for the class. Withdrawing from a class cannot be done after the deadline.

The instructor will **not** withdraw you from the class for any reason (including absence) or submit the form for you. It is your responsibility to withdraw from the course. If you withdraw from this class, you continue to be financially responsible for the class and are not eligible for a tuition refund or replacement course. Please be aware that withdrawing from a class may affect scholarship, financial aid, and/or international student visa status. If you receive financial aid or veterans' benefits, your eligibility for aid may be reduced by withdrawing. If you are an international student, you may jeopardize your F-1 visa status.

In case of doubt about your status and options, ask the instructor, department chair and/or the Counseling & Advising Center.

Topical Course Outline

1. Orientation; history of string instruments and string instrument instruction.
 - a. Demonstration, construction, and care of violin parts.
 - b. Recommendation of available reading materials and teaching methods.
2. Technique.
 - a. Right hand development and skills: bow hold and stages of development (early bow hold, balancing exercises, rhythm exercises without violin); tone production (weight application to strings, sounding-point location, speed/distribution of bowing, dynamic changes); string crossing skills (detached, slurred); various bowing articulation, combinations, and distribution (detache, slurs, martele, spiccato).
 - b. Left hand development and skills: posture (standing and sitting); hand position; finger placement; muscular development and control (rhythm exercises, pressure application, trills, thumb control in crossing and shifting).
3. Music Materials.
 - a. Open string studies: son file; string crossings.
 - b. Major and minor scales: one and two octaves.
 - c. “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” and variations from Suzuki method.
 - d. Interval studies and double stops (3rds, 5ths, and 6ths).
 - e. Short pieces from pedagogy: Suzuki method; Prelude To String Playing.
4. Source material and reading list.
Suzuki Violin School (Summy-Birchard).
Paul Rolland, *Prelude To String Playing*.

Also recommended:
John Dewey, *Experience and Education*.
Shiniki Suzuki, *The Suzuki Concept*.
Elizabeth H. Green, *String Teaching in Class*.
5. Course Requirements.
 - a. Proficiency in scales with various bowings: major scales to three sharps and four flats, one octave; major scales on G, A flat, and A, two octaves.
 - b. Proficient performance of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” with rhythmic variations.