University of Florida  
School of Music  
MUE 2440A: Strings Skills (1 credit)  

Spring 2014  
Class Time: 9:35AM  Tuesdays- Period 2, MUB 356

Instructor:  Sandy Goldie
Email:  sgoldie@ufl.edu
Office Hours:  Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-9:30 or by appointment
Office:  MUB313

Course Description:

This is a required for music education majors whose primary emphasis is choral or keyboard. The focus of the course is the development of basic technical competency and pedagogical techniques on the orchestral string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass) in a heterogeneous and homogeneous class with an emphasis on the general principles of string playing and teaching methods used in beginning and intermediate instruction in the public schools.

Required Texts:


Materials Needed each Day:

- Instrument
- Accessories: Kun shoulderpad, rockstop, rosin, cloth, pencil
- CD Accompaniment of text for daily practice
- Textbook
- Appropriate fingernail length, patience and enthusiasm

Course Objectives:

To prepare choral and keyboard music education majors to teach string instruments (violin, viola, cello and bass) at the elementary and middle school level and to familiarize them with the following:

1. String notation/ theory/ terminology
2. Teaching strategies for specific instruments and ensembles
3. Care, maintenance, repair, purchase, and budget.
4. Pedagogical study of repertoire, current trends, and literature
5. Warm-up techniques, implementing history, theory, technology, and listening. Tuning and sizing of instruments.
6. Creating evaluations, recruiting strategies, teaching resource notebook

Florida Accomplished Practices (FEAPS):
4. Critical Thinking
   - Written examinations covering bowings, fingerings, and selection of public school orchestra literature.
6. Professionalism
   - Attendance at all regular class meetings. Creation of Resource Notebook.
8. Knowledge of Subject Matter
   - Proficiency exams, composition, and modeling of excellent musical performance skills.

Course Calendar:
Week 1-6: Course Overview, Upper String Instruments (primary)
Weeks 7-8: Recitals, Secondary Instruments (upper)
Week 9-14: Lower String Instruments
Week 15-16: Recitals, Secondary Instruments, Orchestral Resources, Equipment, Terms, Exam Review, Notebook Project

Evaluation/Grading:
30% MTV’s (Mini-Teaching Video Demonstration)
30% PD’s (Performance Demonstrations)
20% Resource Notebook Project
10% Assignments/Quizzes
10% Final Exam
***Attendance weighs heavily in this class. See the attendance policy below.

Grading Scale:
94-100 = A 84-87 = B 74-77 = C 64-67 = D
91-93 = A- 81-83 = B- 71-73 = C- 61-63 = D-
88-90 = B+ 78-80 = C+ 68-70 = D+ 60 ↓ = E, I, NG, S-U, WF

Attendance Policy:
- Class attendance is mandatory and is crucial for success in this class. Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time for class. Students should be prepared with the day's assignments before the beginning of each class session. **Four (4) points will be deducted from the total semester points (overall final grade) at the end of the term for each unexcused absence.**
- You will be given one “free” absence that will be considered excused that you may use in case of an emergency or illness. This will be the only excused absence you will get this semester and any additional absence will result in the final semester grade being lowered by **4 points for each absence**. Students who do not use this “free” absence (have no course absences) may redeem it for extra credit at the end of the course. Class begins
promptly at 9:35 AM. You will be counted tardy if you come in after class has started; three tardies will constitute one absence.

Make-Up Work:

- Absence from class on an assignment due date does not excuse work that is due on that day- the work should be e-mailed to the instructor on or before the start time of the class missed.
- Late penalties will apply to all late work (one letter grade per day late). Assignments more than one week late will not be accepted. Absence on a test, project or major presentation day will result in forfeit of all points for the assignment and cannot be made-up except in cases of extreme illness, emergency, or extenuating circumstances for which the professor has been notified in writing (e-mail) at least 24 hours in advance.

Instrument Policy:

- Instruments for practice and class should be stored in the instrument lockers provided. Trent Weller will give you the locker combination for your assigned instrument. Use only the instrument assigned to you. You are responsible for keeping the instrument in its current condition. Combinations should not be disclosed to students not enrolled in MU 2440.
- **Students are expected to practice daily with the accompaniment CD.** Mastering any instrument takes practice. Practicing fewer than **100 minutes per week** will severely hamper your ability to learn to play the instruments well.

CNAfME Membership and Meeting Attendance:

Professional educators at all levels—including pre-service teachers at the collegiate level—are obligated to continually grow and develop professionally. Professional music education organizations provide one way for teachers to do this. **NAfME**—The National Association for Music Education is the professional music education organization in the United States. The collegiate arm of this organization, CNAfME, has been established to provide pre-service teachers an opportunity to participate in NAfME activities. I expect all MUE 2442 students who are majoring in Music Education to join the UF chapter of CNAfME and attend weekly meetings held on Fridays at 1:55PM in Room 121.

Academic Honor Policy:

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the
University. The university’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. Full information regarding these policies is available at the following links:

- Academic Honesty: [http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty)

**Students with disabilities:**

I will make every attempt to accommodate students with disabilities. At the same time, anyone requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide you with the necessary documentation, which you must then provide to me when requesting accommodation.

**University Counseling Services: Counseling Center**

3190 Radio Rd.  P.O. Box 112662
University of Florida,
Gainesville, FL 32611-2662
Phone: 352-392-1575
Web: [www.counsel.ufl.edu](http://www.counsel.ufl.edu)
## Assignment Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Jan. 7</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Jan. 14</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>OVC #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Jan. 21</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>MTV #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Jan. 28</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>MTV #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Feb. 4</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>RQ: Lines (upper)</td>
<td>MTV#3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Feb. 11</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>RQ: Spaces (upper)</td>
<td>RQ-all primary (upper)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Feb. 18</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>PD #1</td>
<td>RQ-all secondary (upper)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Feb. 25</td>
<td>Upper Strings</td>
<td>Folio #1: Violin &amp; Viola</td>
<td>PD #2 (student)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. March 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. March 11 13</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td></td>
<td>OVC #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. March 18</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td></td>
<td>MTV #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. March 25</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td>RQ-Lines (lower)</td>
<td>MTV #5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. April 1</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td>RQ-Spaces #2 (lower)</td>
<td>MTV #6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. April 8</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td>PD #3</td>
<td>RQ- all primary (lower)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. April 15</td>
<td>Lower Strings</td>
<td>Folio #2: Cello &amp; Bass</td>
<td>PD #4 (student)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. April 22</td>
<td>Orchestral</td>
<td>Resource Notebook Due</td>
<td>Exam date TBA (per UF schedule)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Grading:

- **Mini-Teaching Video Demonstrations (30%)**
  - MTV’s 1 & 4: Instrument Position
  - MTV’s 2 & 5: Left Hand Position
  - MTV’s 3 & 6: Bow Hold and Arco Playing

- **Performance Demonstrations (30%)**
  - PD #1: upper strings (scale & approved melody/Ipod challenge)
  - PD #2: upper strings (student recital performance)
  - PD #3: lower strings (scale & approved melody/Ipod challenge)
  - PD #4: lower strings (student recital performance)

- **Resource Notebook (20%)**
- **Assignments and Quizzes (10%)**
  - Orientation Video Comments (OVC)
  - Reading Proficiencies Quiz (RQ): Violin, Viola, Cello & Bass
  - Folio Work: Fingering, Flashcards, Melody, Set-Up, Diagnosis, Reflections
  - Miscellaneous assignments

- **Final Exam (10%)**

***Attendance (-4 points from the final grade for each unexcused absence 3 tardies = 1 absence)***