

ETSU Syllabus
MUSC-1821 - Applied Strings Level I
MUSC-2921 - Applied Strings Level II
MUSC-3291 - Applied Strings Level III

Credits: 1 or 2

Lesson time arranged with each student, Lessons held in Mathes Hall, Room 13

Instructor: Dr. Marianna Brickle

Office: Room 13

Office hours: by appointment

Contact: Email bricklem@etsu.edu

Additional resource: Student Handbook

Prerequisite

Students must pass auditions to enter the Music Minor and/or Music Major program. Non-Majors will set up auditions with the instructor. Students must pass a lower-level applied strings course and juries to advance to the next level.

Course Description

In the Applied Strings Class, students will study the fundamentals of playing a string instrument. Students will be assigned appropriate solo, chamber, and orchestral repertoire related to their instrument. This course consists of the study of techniques of playing, musicianship, pedagogical applications, and public performance.

Course Structure

Lessons

String Majors (BM and BA) are required register for 2 credit lessons for eight semesters.

Students registered for 2 credits receive one 55-minute private lesson weekly. Students registered for 1 credit receive one 25-minute private lesson weekly.

Instructors who have to miss lessons will schedule make-up lessons; however, National holidays and school closing days are made up at the discretion of the instructor. Days that students miss are not made up unless exceptions are made with the instructor (see Attendance below).

Studio Class

In addition to weekly applied lessons, students are REQUIRED to attend studio class every week. Students should perform in class at least twice during the semester. Studio times vary by semester.

Practice

In order to improve playing and meet the requirements of the class, students must practice daily. A minimum of 1-2 hours of daily practice is expected for 1-credit lessons. A minimum of 2-3 hours of daily practice is expected for 2-credit lessons.

Performance

Public performance is a requirement for each semester. String Majors are advised to perform at least two pieces in public once a semester.

Masterclass/workshop attendance

Students are required to attend the department sponsored master classes/workshops.

Research

Students are required to do the following research:

- Theoretical analysis on works they are studying
- Research on historical context as it relates to a piece or a composer they are studying.

Juries

At the end of each semester, students must perform a jury. The jury is the final exam in applied strings. This performance is a closed performance for the string faculty only. Typically, the student chooses the first piece and the faculty chooses the rest. A pianist will be provided for your jury (see “Collaborative pianist section”). Sign-up sheet for juries will be transmitted via your applied instructor approximately 2 weeks prior to the jury. Students are strongly advised to take a level advancement test on the second (level 2) and the fourth (level 3) semester of their study (Please refer “level advancements and requirements section”). Students are to complete their independent musicianship test after they pass to level 3. The independent musicianship piece can be counted as one of the jury pieces.

Responsibilities and Expectations

Memorization

Students are strongly encouraged to perform concertos, solo pieces, and show pieces from memory. Sonatas and duos are considered chamber music and may be performed with music.

Rehearsal with an accompanist or accompanying program

The Department provides an accompanist for your studio recital and jury. Majors receive 2 hours of rehearsals during a semester. If you wait to schedule a time with your accompanist, you may find that his/her schedule is already full. Don't wait! If a student accompanist is assigned to you, this person will be at most of the applied lessons and will play for your studio recital and jury. If you need additional rehearsal time with the accompanist, it is the violinist's responsibility to pay for this time. It is the student's responsibility to schedule rehearsals with the accompanist.

Students giving a half recital, or a full recital are expected to pay their accompanist for lessons, rehearsals, and concerts.

Purchase score and copying scores

Students are required to purchase their own music, just like other academic courses. Students might find copyright free music on www.imslp.com, classical score library

(Sherrod Library) or a copyright free score on online. Making copies of music without permission violates International Copyrights law and will not be allowed.

Attendance

Students should fulfill 14 lessons per semester to pass the class.

The following absences are considered excused and may be granted up to **2 make-up lessons** per semester. In order to be excused, student **MUST** contact the instructor at least 24 hours prior to scheduled lesson:

- Personal illness or injury with doctor's note
- Severe accident or family emergency with document
- Performance engagement or audition

Professionalism and Dress code

Students are expected to dress appropriately for all occasions.

- Applied lesson: Wear clothes that you feel comfortable in.
- Studio Recital: Concert Dress (dress, concert shirt/suit, dress shoes). Discuss appropriate dress with your instructor.
- Juries: Dress for success!

Grading Policy

1. 80% - Lesson preparation and attendance
 - a. Students will be graded on weekly lesson preparation and study of materials assigned
 - b. Students are expected to practice a minimum of 1-2 hours daily for music minors and 2-3 hours daily for music majors. Consistent and thorough practicing is an essential part of students' musical development. Practicing should be divided into practice of technique, scales, etudes and repertoire, with emphasis on posture, proper musical execution, quality of tone, and professional preparation. Any extra time needed to study ensemble repertoire should be in addition to the personal practice, not part of the personal practice time.
 - c. Attendance will only be excused if instructor is given an advance notice. Unexcused lessons will be graded as "F" for the week. Absences due to ETSU and Music Department events and Music Department, such as performances or dress rehearsals will not be counted if instructor is notified in advance. Exceptions to this policy will be made at the discretion of the instructor when consulted by the student.
 - d. Recitals and public performances. Students will perform in a performance class, string studio recital and juries as required by the ETSU Music department.
2. 20% Jury Performance

Grading Scale

A= 94-100		A- = 90-93
B+= 86-89	B=82-85	B-= 78-81
C+= 75-77	C= 72-74	C-= 68-71
D+= 65-67	D= 60-64	F= below 60

Individual Studio Policy

Instruments must be kept in good working order. Bows should be rehaired regularly (at least once a year), and strings should also be changed regularly. Students must bring a pencil and notebook to every lesson, and are encouraged to record lessons with a phone or audio recording device in order to keep detailed records that will aid with practice between lessons. Fingernails must be clean and kept short.

Proficiency Requirements for Applied Strings

General factors for evaluation (SEE JURY RUBRIC FOR MORE INFORMATION):

- Accuracy of presenting correct pitches, rhythms, and articulation.
- Appropriate musical phrasing, tempo, and styles.
- Clarity of tone and intonation.
- Comfortable physical presence and ease with the instrument.
- Continuous focus on performance, even in the event of mistakes.
- Genuine emotional involvement with the music.
- Expressive and sincere communication.
- Well-prepared ensemble between the student and the pianist.
- Growth from semester to semester.

Transfer students. All transfer students must register for Level I during their first semester at ETSU. The jury at the end of the first semester will be used to determine appropriate placement.

Level I: Music 1821

Students should study at this level for no more than three semesters. The student will apply to advance at the end of his/her second semester. If the student fails, he/she will be put on probation and must advance the following semester. If the student fails again, the department will recommend that the student drop the program.

Techniques:

- Proper posture
- Control of simple bow strokes such as legato, détaché, and staccato

- Ability to accurately execute repertoire with a good foundation for intonation and resonance
- Ability to execute shifts with minimal tension
- Reliable relaxed vibrato

Repertoire:

- Two selections should be presented at the jury.
- Selections presented must include two contrasting styles.
- Selections presented should include at least two historical periods.
- If applying to advance to Level II, note the repertoire requirements below.

Applying to Advance to Level II

Requirements:

- At least two semesters of private string lessons at Level I (transfer students may differ)
- Pass the barrier jury.
- For String Performance majors, the barrier jury to Level II also determines continuation in the performance curriculum.
- Student will sight-read short examples of music in both the major and minor keys.

Level II: Music 2921

Students should study at this level for no more than three semesters. The student will apply to advance at the end of his/her fourth semester. If the student fails, he/she will be put on probation and must advance the following semester. If the student fails again, the department will recommend that the student drop the program.

Techniques:

- Continuation of all above techniques
- Agility/ability to accurately execute fast and/or difficult passages
- Clarity of intonation
- Comfort in higher registers

Repertoire:

- Selections presented should represent at least two historical periods.
- Students should present at least one movement from a standard concerto, or a piece of equivalent difficulty.
- If applying to advance to Level III, note the repertoire requirements below.

Applying to Advance to Level III

- At least two semesters of private string lessons at Level II
- MUSC 1271, String Pedagogy and Literature
- Pass the barrier jury
- Student will sight-read short examples of music.

Level III: Music 3921

Sting Music Education majors should reach this level by the end of their 6th semester; String Performance majors should reach this level by the end of their 5th semester. A minimum of one semester of study at this level must be successfully completed prior to graduation.

Technique:

- Continuation of all above techniques
- Professional level performance skills
- Demonstration of control over all technical facets of the instrument that would be demanded by standard chamber/orchestral repertoire
- Ability to express different characters clearly and convincingly
- Clear understanding of stylistic differences between different time periods

Repertoire:

- Three selections are to be presented at the jury; one of the selections is to be prepared independently during one of the semesters at level III. The student prepares an independent study piece that is mutually agreed upon with the student's applied instructor, but the instructor shall provide no assistance in helping prepare the piece with the student. The student learns the piece independently.
- Selections presented should represent at least three historical periods.

Recitals

Music Education majors and students pursuing the BA in Music must present a half recital prior to graduation. The length of the recital should be between 25-35 minutes of music. Students pursuing the BM in performance must present a half recital (preferably in the junior year) and a full recital (senior year). The full recital should be between 45-55 minutes of music. Students must have record of 5 public performances prior to their half recital.

Recital Repertoire:

- For half and full recitals, repertoire should represent a minimum of two contrasting time periods. For full recitals, students are strongly encouraged to play at least one contemporary piece.

Recital Hearing:

All students must pass a recital hearing at least **two weeks** before the scheduled recital. During the recital hearing, the student should present a typed recital program for each committee member, and prepare to play any piece in the program. The student should be prepared to answer questions about any piece on their program, including historical information about the era in which the piece was written and key characteristics from this era as well as key characteristics of the composer. The student should also be prepared to answer questions about interpretation and the expression of the music.