

## Course Outline

**2885 – Section 001 & 002 Group String Instruction: Violin/Viola**

**Western University Don Wright Faculty of Music**

**Winter Term 2022**

**Section 001: Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30am-9:30, MB 241**

**Section 002: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30am-10:30, MB241**

### Instructor Information

Nic Carlucci, Lecturer, Violin + Instructor, Strings I (Violin/Viola)

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### Course Description

In this course, students will work towards developing the skills and knowledge that will enable them to administrate and successfully teach public school string classes, of all levels. Throughout the course, students will acquire a basic understanding of the physicality of the violin/viola, as well as acquire the resources to further their study of violin/viola technique.

### Learning Objectives

To gain practical experience playing non-major instruments (violin and viola).

To demonstrate knowledge of pedagogical objectives for beginning through advanced string classes.

To demonstrate knowledge of string rehearsal techniques, assessment, and practice strategies.

To demonstrate an understanding of guidelines for choosing string repertoire.

To gain knowledge of the selection, care, and maintenance of string instruments.

To understand how to build a school orchestra program, including how to advocate, recruit, and retain students.

### Required Materials

*Essential Elements for Strings Book 1 – Teachers Manual* (pdf available for download on OWL)

[https://www.amazon.ca/Essential-Elements-Strings-Book-Violin/dp/0634038176/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=G8DVCJQ70ZND&keywords=essential+elements+for+strings+violin&qid=1576598087&prefix=essential+elements+for%2Caps%2C149&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.ca/Essential-Elements-Strings-Book-Violin/dp/0634038176/ref=sr_1_1?crid=G8DVCJQ70ZND&keywords=essential+elements+for+strings+violin&qid=1576598087&prefix=essential+elements+for%2Caps%2C149&sr=8-1)

### Highly Recommended Materials

Hamann, D., & Gillespie, R. (2013). *Strategies for Teaching Strings: Building a Successful String and Orchestra Program*. New York: Oxford University Press.

[https://www.amazon.ca/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Strategies+for+Teaching+Strings](https://www.amazon.ca/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Strategies+for+Teaching+Strings)

Online Resource: *StringPedagogy.com* (free sign-up for membership).

### **Instrument Pickup**

Instruments are available for both string sections. Please note that instrument sign-outs will be held in TC 313. **\*Please stay tuned for special covid instrument pickup.** If you need further assistance regarding instruments, please email Len Ingrao ([lingrao@uwo.ca](mailto:lingrao@uwo.ca)) directly.

Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of the instruments. Before removing the instrument or bow from its case, please watch the instructional module uploaded online on instrument care and maintenance. All instruments have been checked over, tuned, and set-up prior to your pickup. Please inform the instructor immediately if anything is broken or not in proper working condition. For those students not immediately coming back to campus, it is strongly recommended that you do a short-term violin rental from a music store such as Long and McQuade. Alternatively, borrowing an instrument from a friend or family member could suffice, provided it's properly set up and in good playing condition.

### **Course Requirements**

As this course is offered in a blended model, both online and in-person participation may be required. This course will be fully online until at least January 17th, potentially January 31st or beyond. Info on how to proceed past that point will be sent via email as it becomes available. Online components will include content modules (to be completed weekly) uploaded on Flipgrid, assignments, and video evaluations/ responses. Students should keep the following times available in case the university pivots to fully in-person. Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30am-9:30am (section 001) or 9:30am-10:30am (section 002). In-person classes will take place in MB 241.

**Quiz Assessments and Playing Evaluations:** To be completed periodically either virtually or in-person throughout the semester to test theoretical and practical knowledge pertaining to the violin and viola. Students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the various pedagogical concepts, scales, and technical/musical skills addressed throughout the course.

**Teaching and Lesson Plan Activity:** Students will submit a lesson plan of a topic provided to them, previously covered in the course. The lesson plan will be assessed based on the thoroughness of understanding of the topic, creativity of activities showcased in the plan, as well as the clarity and conciseness of the document. Provided the university remains open, students will have the opportunity to “mock-teach” their topic, and get feedback on their teaching from their peers. Peers will be evaluated as part of their participation mark. Otherwise, a brief video presentation of their topic will be required, and online group feedback will take place.

### **Participation and Attendance Policy:**

Your mark will reflect participation and engagement in all online and in-person course-based activities. Failure to appear for a scheduled evaluation or presentation (without documentation

through the office) will result in a mark of zero for that evaluation or presentation. Absences will be excused only if:

- 1) Student is involved in official UWO business that has been approved by the chair or the instructor
- 2) Documented family issue
- 3) Documented family or personal illness

**Absences from Tests and Assignments:** For absences from tests and assignments (e.g., Quizzes and Final Playing Test) with medical documentation, a make-up test may be scheduled or some other method of evaluation determined in consultation with the student. Without medical documentation, a mark of zero will be assigned.

### **University Policies**

i) Course Prerequisites: None. Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

ii) Grading scale: A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

iii) Academic Consideration for Student Absence: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their

Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office. For the Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Consideration\\_for\\_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf) and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

Special Note for Covid-19-related Situations:

As a guideline, if a student has been contacted by the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) to self-quarantine due to a Covid-19-related situation, then the Self-Reported Absence system is not to be used to report this absence or to request an academic accommodation. The student should contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as they are notified.

In general, students are advised to not self-determine when to self-isolate. Unless directed by the MLHU students should go about their business as usual. But if a student chooses to self-isolate due to a suspected Covid-19-related situation while waiting to receive direction from the MLHU then the student is directed to contact the Academic Counselling office as soon as possible for further direction on receiving accommodation consideration.

iv) Academic Consideration for Missing Work: In cases where students are unable to submit work due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if an online self-reported absence is submitted, or if appropriate supporting documentation is submitted to the Associate Dean's office, and the accommodation is granted, then the missed assessments may be rescheduled or discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. If neither a self-reported absence nor an appropriate supporting document is submitted to the appropriate office, then the missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.

v) Academic Offences: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

vi) Mental Health & Wellness: Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services

in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.

vii) Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

viii) Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. <http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

ix) Contingency Plan: Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor

x) Electronic Devices in Classrooms: The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

xi) Plagiarism Detection Software Usage: All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

xii) Recording of Online Activities: All of the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

xiii) Online Etiquette: Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please observe the following general considerations of “netiquette”:

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of “Zoom-bombing” a class, or of other serious online offences, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

Important Dates for Winter 2022:

Jan 10 – Classes Begin

Feb 19-27- Spring reading week

Apr 8 - Last day of classes

Apr 9 - Study day

Apr 10- 30 - Final examination period

### **Grading**

Grading will be based on the successful completion of all course requirements, which include the following:

#### **Attendance and Participation (15%)**

The attendance and participation mark will take into consideration consistency of meeting deadlines, proactivity to get guidance when needed, as well as preparedness and participation in all activities. This includes the timely submission of online video responses (to be uploaded by 11:59pm each Sunday of the week while in virtual format), assignments, being punctual and in attendance to all in-person engagements, being prepared for quizzes and presentations, as well as providing constructive feedback to peers.

### **Quizzes (30%)**

Quizzes No. 1, 2, and 3 will take place in-person during class time on dates announced by the instructor. In the event the university remains closed, quizzes 1, 2 and 3 will be required to be uploaded in video format by the date and time specified by the instructor.

#### **Quiz No. 1 (10%)**

On the designated date, students will be asked to complete a written quiz, naming the parts of the instrument, care, and maintenance questions.

#### **Quiz No. 2 (10%)**

On the designated date, students will be asked to pluck scale selections from C major, G major, A major (2 octave) or D major (1 octave) scales. A study from Essential Elements No. 2-36 will be chosen by the instructor to be sight-plucked. Last, students will be required to bow a line of rhythm, (chosen by the instructor), in the upper half of the bow, with all of the technical elements covered in the modules, functioning correctly.

#### **Quiz No. 3 (10%)**

On the designated date, students will be asked to showcase basic shifting, and a demonstration of bow strokes learned throughout the semester. The quiz will include a sight reading passage.

### **Teaching and Lesson Plan Activity (30%)**

A 2- 3 page detailed lesson plan will be submitted on the scheduled presentation day, outlining how one would teach the topic assigned by the instructor. The lesson plan should be designed for a 10-minute teaching slot, and showcase a diversity of activities, attempting to make the topic accessible and engaging for all potential students. Provided the university remains open, students will “mock teach” their topic, and receive feedback on their teaching from their peers. Peers will be evaluated as part of their participation mark.

The lesson plan will be assessed based on the thoroughness of understanding of the topic, creativity of activities showcased in the plan, as well as the clarity and conciseness of the document.

In the event the university closes, students will upload a 10-minute video walking through how they would teach their assigned topic. Peers will be required to watch a handful of the presentations and provide written feedback.

### **Final Playing Test (25%)**

Technical Component: on either violin or viola (student chooses)

Two octave A major scale - 4 note slurs  
Two octave A minor arpeggio - single notes  
Two octave D major scale - shift as provided, 2 note slurs

One octave scale of your choice for each technical element (can be the same for all technical elements)  
(you can choose how many notes per stroke)

- i. Martele
- ii. Detache
- iii. Spiccato

Pieces: one selection from the two provided by the instructor

In the event the university closes, students will be required to upload a video of the completed playing test by the date specified by the instructor.

#### **Grading summary:**

**Attendance and Participation** (15%)

**Quizzes** (30%)

**Lesson Plan Activity** (30%)

**Final Playing Test** (25%)

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**Total** 100%

#### **Addendum: 2885S/T Calendar Winter 2022 (Section 001, 002)**

Please note this addendum is a layout of video modules for the entire semester. If we transfer back to an in-person model, the format and layout of these topics could alter as they will switch to being taught in-person. All video modules will be uploaded on the dates specified below to *Flipgrid*. Please sign in and complete your video responses by the Sunday at 11:59pm of every week.

Online Module: Welcome! - Syllabus overview, class expectations, outline of assignments, quizzes and presentations.

Online Module: Jan 11: Parts of the Instrument, Care and Maintenance

Online Module: Jan 13: Tuning, Holding the Instrument, Posture, Sitting vs. Standing

Online Module: Jan 18: Basic bow hold and left hand placement

Online Module: Jan 20: Transferring the bow hold to the bow

**In-Person Quiz no. 1: Jan 25: Refer to Syllabus**

Online Module: Jan 27: Introduction of scales, bowing in the upper-half

Online Module: Feb 1: How to teach note reading to upper strings

Online Module: Feb 3: Reading Rhythms and Quiz Review

**In-Person Quiz no. 2: Feb 8: Refer to Syllabus**

Online Module: Feb 10: Transferring the bow to the string and tríflecta of sound

Online Module: Feb 15: Adding the Fingers and the bow/ Intro to slurs

Online Module: Feb 17: Detaché and Martelé bow strokes

Online Module: Mar 1: Tuning with pegs / Class instrument purchase/ review

Online Module: Mar 3: Mechanics of bowing in the lower-half/ slurs

Online Module: Mar 8: Spiccato bow stroke/ bow stroke review

Online Module: Mar 10: Fundamentals of Shifting

Online Module: Mar 15: Shifting in scales/ Final test review

Online Module: Mar 17: Differences between Violin and Viola

**In-Person Quiz no. 3: Mar 22: Refer to Syllabus**

**In-Person Teaching and Lesson Plan Activities: Mar 29: Please check your email to see what day you're schedule to come in**

**In-Person Teaching and Lesson Plan Activities: Mar 31: Please check your email to see what day you're schedule to come in**

**In-Person Teaching and Lesson Plan Activities: Apr 5: Please check your email to see what day you're schedule to come in**

**In-Person FINAL PLAYING TESTS: Apr 7: Please check your email to see what day you're schedule to come in**