Viola Studio Class Outline

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
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Office Hours: by appointment MB 335
Course Codes: 1920, 2920, 2921, 3920, 3921, 3922, 4920, 4921, 4922, 1925, 2925, 3925, 3924y, 3929, 4923, 4925, 4924y, 4929

Important Information:
Please read through the UWO Music Performance Handbook. It is your responsibility to know all the contents. You can find it online at:

Course description:
In this course, students will practice and play viola in order to perform with greater expression, clarity, and confidence. Throughout the course students will gain a comprehensive knowledge of standard viola repertoire, participate in performance classes, and attend concerts. Students will gain performance experience during performance class and concerts; master classes; juries; and other performance situations.

Learning Outcomes:
To cultivate a strong internal desire to play and perform.
To demonstrate the ability to play music in different styles and genres by various composers.
To assess personal playing and playing of others in a positive and nonjudgmental way, and be able to articulate strengths and weaknesses.
To choose repertoire to construct a cohesive musical program.
To improve technique in order to serve independence and artistry.

Lessons:
Viola lessons begin the week of September 3rd. Your lesson time will be emailed to you in August. You will have a total of 12 lessons throughout each semester.
Undergraduates in years 1 and 2 and Graduate students receive 60 minute lessons. 3rd and 4th year Undergraduates receive 90 minute lessons. Occasionally there will be irregular weeks where your lesson will fall on a different date/time, which I will reschedule with you at a mutually convenient time.

First Lesson: Be prepared to discuss goals and objectives for the semester in order to construct a general overview for the year. This includes concerto competitions,
preparation for auditions, recital programming ideas, festivals, and summer programs. Also be prepared to play one scale, one study, and one piece.

Cancelled/missed lessons: Any lessons I cancel will be made up. You must call or email me 24 hours in advance to cancel a lesson in order to have it rescheduled. If you cancel because you are sick and it is less than 24 hours before the start of the lesson please text me before the start of the lesson. I am not obliged to make up these lessons unless you can provide a medical note, but I will consider each situation.

Preparation: I expect you come to your lesson on time. Plan to arrive at least 5 minutes before your scheduled time to unpack your instrument. In addition you must warm up for a minimum of 20 minutes before your lesson. Please schedule your lesson at a time that allows for this.

Practicing is ESSENTIAL to success in this course. Music majors must practice studio materials a minimum of 3 hours/day. Non-performance majors are expected to practice for a minimum of 2 hours/day. Please set up a schedule at the beginning of each semester to reserve consistent practice times. All practicing must record your practice in a Practice Log.

Bring to lessons:
- A notebook for me to write in.
- Your Practice Log.
  - Your Practice Log is an account of your personal practice sessions. Summarize goals for the week, how you divided your practicing, and the duration of your practice. Include thoughts on strengths and weaknesses of your playing.
- A separate 3 ring binder with copies of repertoire, studies and excerpts you play in the lesson. For any repertoire that includes piano, please Xerox the piano score and bring a copy of it to every lesson.

Required purchases:
1. Kreutzer 42 Studies for Viola
2. Campagnoli 41 Caprices for Viola
3. Galamian Scales for Viola
4. Bach Six Cello Suites Arranged for Viola (Ricordi edition)
5. Metronome with drone and pitch indicator, or suitable metronome app on smartphone
6. Good personal recording device
7. Students must own original music for any repertoire they are working on

Notebook Assignments:
1. Repertoire analysis and repertoire recording review (500 words) Due Tuesday November 26th at the beginning of Performance Class
2. Mini-essay (250 words) Due Tuesday September 24th at the beginning of Performance Class

For each piece studied during the semester, please provide background information on the work. List in paragraph or point form information that would be relevant and interesting to an audience with little or no musical knowledge. Information could include historical significance, translations of titles, challenges of the work, and description of the movements. Be sure to properly cite all information using endnotes. Use Grove or other library sources; use of Wikipedia is unacceptable. Please listen to at least 3 different professional recordings for each work you are studying. Recordings can be found in the music library, Naxos catalogue or iTunes. YouTube recordings are unacceptable. Write a review for each recording in your notebook. Be sure to include source information.

Write a short (250 word) essay outlining your best hopes for the future from a professional standpoint. What would this look like? Why do you want to do this?

Performance Class:
Performance classes are every week on Tuesday mornings from 8am-9:30am in TC101. You are obliged to attend this class as part of your lesson requirements. Everyone should be present at each class as it is a learning opportunity for those who play and for those who are commenting.

Each student must perform at least two times in a semester. We will discuss at your lesson when and what you will perform. If your repertoire requires a pianist you much bring one to the class you perform in.

Pianists:
Here are some recommendations for pianists (you will have to pay them their rate):
Yolanda Tapia
Raymond Truong
Dan Luong
James Hibbard
Please be in touch with them as early as possible in the semester about collaborating, as they get booked quickly.

The Faculty of Music also offers an accompanying course for pianists, where you would not need to pay them for their time, as it counts towards their class. Please be in touch with me if you are interested in being matched with a pianist taking this course.

Viola Studio Recital:
Please mark down in your calendars the Viola Studio Recital (Fall Semester) which will take place Wednesday December 4th at 6pm in Studio 242.

**Juries:**
Juries are scheduled for April (for students not taking a Credit Recital) and December (3rd and 4th year Undergraduates).  

**Concert Attendance:**
All students in performance class must attend a minimum of 12 concerts throughout the school year (excluding concerts and performances where the student is participating). At the first viola performance class every student will be giving an attendance card. Students will have a faculty member sign at the end of the concert. This counts for a total of 3% of your final mark, each concert worth .25%. These attendance cards are due back to me by April 9th 2020.

Here are a few examples of some wonderful concerts to attend:  
Saturday September 21st, 8pm: Gryphon Trio at Wolf Hall  
Saturday October 19th, 8pm: Penderecki Quartet with Arthur Rowe at Wolf Hall  
Saturday March 7th, 8pm: St. Lawrence String Quartet at Wolf Hall

We are lucky in London to have many other classical music series featuring world-class musicians. Here are some helpful links:
[http://www.serenatamusiconline.com](http://www.serenatamusiconline.com)  
[http://aeolianhall.ca](http://aeolianhall.ca)

**Grading:**
Please refer to the Grading section in your handbook:  

Lessons are worth between 65-75% per year depending on your program and will be determined as follows:
- Attendance/Punctuality/Responsibility: /37
- Preparation and Improvement: /50
- Notebook assignments and Mini-essay: /10
- Concert Attendance: /3

Performance Class is worth 10% of your final mark and will be determined as follows:
- Attendance/Punctuality: /3
Minimum 2 performances: /4  
Oral contribution: /3

Juries are worth between 20-25% of your final grade, depending on your program. Please consult the Student Handbook for more information.

**Statements required by the Senate for Undergraduate Students**

Accommodation for Illness:
Please see the Policy on Accommodation for Illness found under “Rights and Responsibilities” at:  
[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)

- New for 2019: There is a new policy in effect from September 2019 enabling undergraduate students to self-report 2 short (48 hour or less) absences for work worth 30% or less of their final grade. Students self-reporting more than 2 absences or work worth more than 30% of their grade are required to file appropriate documentation through the office of the Associate Dean. Students are not allowed to self-report absences during final exam periods. If a student files a self-reported absence they must contact their instructor within 24 hours to discuss steps for completing the work.

Statement on Academic Offences:
“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:”  

Statement on Mental Health:
“Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western [https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

Plagiarism:
“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://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/terms/turnitin.html](https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/terms/turnitin.html)