

Viola Studio of Sharon Wei

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Instructor: Sharon Wei

Email: swei48@uwo.ca

Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 81490

Office Hours: by appointment MB 335

Course Description:

This course involves the study of viola performance through one-on-one lessons, performance classes, and performances. Students will gain a comprehensive knowledge of the standard viola repertoire by studying and performing works in various styles, genres and by different composers. Progress will be evaluated during every lesson and performance class.

This document lists pertinent information for your viola studies. Please read it carefully. Also, it is your responsibility to know all the contents of the UWO Music Performance Handbook. You can find it online at

<http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>

Performance classes are mandatory and will be held every Wednesday morning, 8am-9:30am in TC 101

Each student must perform at least 2 times per semester.

Lessons

Viola lessons begin the week of September 6th. Your lesson time will be emailed out to you in August. There are weekly lessons for all undergraduates. For 3rd and 4th year performance majors, the lessons are 90 minutes long. For all other undergraduates, the lessons are 50 min long. Graduate students receive weekly lessons that are 50 minutes long. You will receive 12 lessons over the course of the term.

Cancelled/missed lessons policy: Any lessons that I cancel will be made up. You must call or email me 24 hours in advance to cancel a lesson. Lessons will not be made up unless they have been cancelled. If you cancel because you are sick and it is less than 24 hours before your lesson, email me before 10pm the evening before your scheduled lesson.

Preparation: I expect you to show up on time for your lessons. If you are more than ten minutes late for a lesson, that lesson will be forfeited. You must be warmed up at least 20 minutes before playing for a lesson. Please schedule your lesson time when you can be warmed up and early. Practicing is essential to your success in this course. Non-perfor-

mance majors are expected to practice studio materials for a minimum of 2 hours daily and performance majors are expected to practice 3+ hours daily to cover all the material discussed in lessons. Please set up a schedule at the beginning of each semester to reserve consistent practice times.

Specific tasks will be assigned in preparation for your next lesson. Your mark will depend in part how you carry out those tasks.

Please bring the following to each lesson:

a separate, 3-ring binder with copies of the repertoire, studies and excerpts you play in the lesson. Please divide your repertoire neatly with tabs. For any repertoire that includes piano, please Xerox the piano score which should include the viola part.

Instructions for the first lesson: Please be prepared to discuss your goals for the semester. Goals include repertoire selection, recital repertoire, auditions, festival applications etc. Please bring a list of repertoire you have already worked on with previous teachers.

Please email me pdfs of all the viola parts you are currently working on by September 30

Course Materials

1. Kreutzer 42 studies for viola
2. Campagnoli 41 Caprices for viola
3. Hermann Concert Studies
4. Galamian scales for viola
5. Bach six cello suites arranged for viola (ricordi edition)

Other repertoire will be determined at your lessons.

Performance classes

Performance classes are every week on Wednesday from 8:00am-9:30am in TC 101.

All Music Majors, please be sure you don't have any conflict with other classes as 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 2 times in a semester. We will discuss at your lesson when and what you will perform. If your repertoire requires a pianist you must bring one to the class you perform in.

It is advisable that you find a pianist during the first few weeks of school. This can be through the accompanying credit that pianists are enrolled in or through the list of pianists that the performance office provides. It will be especially important this academic

year as you will be asking pianists to record tracks which can be used for personal practice as well and recording assignments. You can find pianists in the area at this link:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/MPS%20pdf/ProfessionalAccompanistsList.pdf>

Grading:

Please refer to the Grading section in your handbook:

<http://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/index.html>

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/MPS%20pdf/lesson-requirements.pdf>

Lessons are worth 25% of your overall grade in the course and will be determined as follows:

Attendance/Responsibility: /50

Preparation and Improvement: /50

The performance class grade is worth 10% of your overall grade in the course and will be determined as follows:

Attendance: /3

Minimum 2 performances: /4

Oral contribution: /3

Concert Attendance

All students enrolled in performance classes must attend concerts. There will be guest viola and chamber music masterclasses throughout the year. Please plan to listen/attend the following:

Sunday September 12	12:00pm-2pm Terry Riley In C performance
Sunday September 19	3:00pm Livestream Faculty Concert Series
Saturday October 16	TBC Aeolian Hall Rebelheart Concert
Wednesday October 20	8:00am Viola MC with Annemarie Moorcroft
Thursday October 21	8pm Chamber Music MC with violinists Mark Fewer and Annalee Patipatanakoon
Friday October 22	12:30pm Fridays at 12:30pm: Mendelssohn Octet
Tuesday October 26	7:00pm Cello MC with Mischa Meyer
Friday November 12	3:30pm Viola MC with Theresa Rudolph
Sunday November 14	3:00pm Faculty Concert Series
Saturday November 27	8:00pm VKH Medtner Piano Quintet
Friday December 3rd	3:30pm Viola MC with Juan-Miguel Hernandez
Wednesday December 8	8:00pm Viola Studio Recital

Additionally, London is fortunate to have many other classical music series featuring world-class soloists and chamber musicians. Please be sure to check out what is happening! Here are some helpful links:

<http://aeolianhall.ca>

<https://www.londonsymphonia.ca>

<http://www.jefferyconcerts.com/>

Guest Masterclasses

Wednesday October 20th 6pm-7:30pm in Studio 242: Annemarie Moorcroft

November 12th 3:30pm-5:30pm in Studio 242: Theresa Rudolph

December TBA 3:30pm-5:30pm in Studio 242: Juan-Miguel Hernandez

January 21st 2:30pm-4:30pm in Studio 242: TBC

March 25th 3:30pm-5:30pm in Studio 242: Rivka Golani

Letters of Recommendation

Letters of Recommendation are a privilege, not an entitlement. If you require a letter for an application, please request one at least 2 weeks in advance of the deadline. A request should be made in person so that we can discuss all the relevant information needed for the letter.

Required Materials

- 1) Metronome or suitable metronome app on smartphone
- 2) Personal recording device for recording lessons, practice and performances
- 3) Students must own original music for any repertoire they are working on
- 4) External microphone for online lessons
- 5) Joint Membership to the Canadian and American Viola Society (approx \$50/year)

<https://www.americanviolasociety.org/Join.php>

Practice Journal

Your practice journal is an account of your personal practice sessions. Please summarize goals for the week, how you divided your practicing and the duration of your practice. Include thoughts on strengths and weaknesses that you are working on. Bring your notebook to every lesson.

Mandatory string bank workshop

Saturday, September 11, 2-4:30p, MB 345

<https://music.uwo.ca/about/resources/string-bank.html>

Statements required by the Senate:

I. Mandated Notes:

i) **Course Prerequisites:** None

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

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: 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_under_grad.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

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) **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.

x) **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 agree-

ment, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

xi) **Contingency Plan:** In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely 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 remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor.

xii) **Recording of Online Activities: (in the event that the course moves online)**

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:** (in the event that the course moves online) Some components of this course may involve synchronous online interactions. To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- Use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- “Arrive” to class on time
- Ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- Unless invited by your instructor, do not share your screen in the meeting
- Be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- If you wish to speak, select the blue “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question.
- Kindly remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking.
- Self-identify when speaking.
- Kindly remember to select the “raise hand” function again to lower your hand, mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise).

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 offenses, may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.