

Graduate Performance Recital - Violin: MUSG 5389

Spring 2018 Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephen Nordstrom, Assistant Professor of Violin
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Graduate students enrolled in the graduate recital course will receive applied lessons throughout the semester, on a weekly basis, in preparation for the public recital. These will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time between the student and the instructor. Lessons and practice routines are designed to achieve the goal of presenting a high-level professional recital. For students enrolled in the graduate recital course as their final project (capstone), there will be an accompanying oral exam to be administered within a few weeks of the degree recital. Please refer to the guidelines provided by Graduate Advisor Dr. Dominic Dousa regarding committees and requirements for this portion of the course.

OBJECTIVES

- Understanding and appreciation of the arts, culture, and history through musical study and performance
- Development of advanced technical and artistic skills and musical creativity
- Learn to practice efficiently and fulfill a high standard of musical and technical goals through preparation and performances
- Development of the necessary skills for research in music and the capacity to write and speak knowledgably on chosen subjects of research

ATTENDANCE

It is the student's responsibility to arrive at the lesson regularly and on time. If a lesson has to be missed, the student should contact me in advance of the lesson, preferably by cell phone (call or text) or email as listed above. Absences will only be excused in the case of a medical emergency or a conflict with a University-related activity. In both cases, a note from the health center or another instructor is required to excuse the absence. Make-up lessons will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor.

Studio class and scale group attendance is **MANDATORY** for all students enrolled in lessons. Scale groups will meet on a weekly basis for between 30 and 60 minutes. In these sessions students will play scales, arpeggios, double stops, and etudes for each other and receive comments from the other members of the group. Studio classes will be announced by email and scheduled throughout the semester on Friday afternoons.

Faculty and student recitals occur throughout the semester. Your attendance at these events is **REQUIRED**. Students will be reminded of these concerts and recitals through

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email. Please check your email and the UTEP event calendar regularly and support your peers!

PRACTICE

“Practice with your fingers and you need all day. Practice with your mind and you will do as much in 1 1/2 hours.” ~ Leopold Auer

Students are required to keep a practice journal, which helps establish good practice habits and can be used to keep track of questions or problems to bring to the attention of the instructor at the next lesson. This is an important part of effective and concentrated practice; it keeps the student motivated to achieve goals and develop good habits.

A solid practice routine involves some combination of scales and arpeggios, technical studies and etudes, solo pieces, chamber music, and orchestral repertoire. Time should be allotted in each session for basics (scales, etudes, exercises), building/interpretation of pieces, and performance practice. Be creative in your approach to practicing!

ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

In some cases, additional assignments may be given to the student, such as researching a piece or composer, listening to recordings, or studying scores. These assignments may be given on an individual basis during the weekly lesson or through email and are beneficial in your overall development as a musician.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, visual, hearing, etc.) who need to arrange special classroom accommodations must notify me at the beginning of the semester with a letter from the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). For greater success, students are strongly encouraged to contact CASS at 747-5148 or at dss@utep.edu or visit the Union East Building, Room 106.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

University of Texas at El Paso students are expected to be honest and individual in their pursuit of truth and knowledge, and will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity. Students are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the university's policies on academic infringement from the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution:

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/student-conduct/student-conduct-process-appendix/>

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EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on attendance, effort, improvement, and progress through the assigned repertoire. Performances and recitals throughout the semester will be judged on tone quality, technique, musical accuracy, and interpretation.

*****Graduate students are expected to prepare and perform at a professional level and to act as mentors for the undergraduate students.**