

**Individual Instruction in Violin/Viola:
MUSA 1185/1195/1285/1290/3295/3391
Fall 2015**

INSTRUCTOR: Stephen Nordstrom, Assistant Professor of Violin
EMAIL: sbnordstrom@utep.edu
PHONE: (940) 597-6035
OFFICE: Fox Fine Arts Center, Room M434
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students enrolled in private lessons receive one 60-minute lesson per week, scheduled at a mutually convenient time between the student and the instructor. We will discuss goals, both short-term and long-term, at the beginning of the semester. Lessons and practice routines are designed to achieve these goals.

OBJECTIVES

- Understanding and appreciation of the arts, culture, and history through musical study and performance
- Development of technical and artistic skills and musical creativity
- Learn to practice efficiently and fulfill musical and technical goals through preparation and performances

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.

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.

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/>

EVALUATION

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

Work hard, practice well, and have a great semester!