

String Techniques – Mus 370T -Upper Strings

Karen Davy

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Tuesday 1 – 1:50 PM, Music A room 106

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Office Hours: as printed on the door or by appointment

Course Objectives:

- To teach you to play the violin and viola as well as possible in one semester.
- To understand the issues of playing the violin and viola enough to be able to teach beginners and to correct and improve intermediate students' playing.
- To teach you the basic skills required to pass the credential entrance exam.
- To acquaint you with materials useful for teaching a beginning strings class.
- To acquaint you with more advanced skills, concepts, and resources for use in intermediate and advanced groups.
- To acquaint you with various ways to overcome and avoid the many physical tensions associated with string playing.

Note: You will observe and correct other students but this class is *not* designed to teach you to teach as such. The art of teaching is addressed in other education courses. The goals of this course are meant to give you the skills to be able to progress to the stage of teaching students to “do as I do”.

Required DVDs/Videos to Watch:

The New Approach to Violin Playing by Kato Havas, *Nurtured by Love* by the Suzuki Association and possibly, *Viva Vibrato* by Gerald Fischbach

Course Requirements:

Attendance is mandatory. Each unexcused absence can lower your grade by 5 points. Excused absences are permitted for professional opportunities like ensemble trips or for illness. You must also be ready *to play* promptly on the hour. This means that your instrument and bow are out, shoulder rest on, music organized, and, once learned, instrument tuned. Chronic failure to be ready to start the class on the hour will lower your grade.

Practice the assigned pieces or exercises for 20 - 30 minutes four to six times a week and be able to play them in class up to a standard which reflects careful practice.

Demonstrate the basic skills through a series of performance and assessment assignments, evaluate other student's work, and possibly instruct other students how to improve.

Watch assigned dvds/videos and answer questions about them. Answers must be typed, and spell-checked.

Grading:

- 60%: weekly playing assignments, quizzes, and evaluations of other students.
- 5%: mid-term
- 10%: dvd/video questions : TBA
- 25%: final (15% - demonstrating the basic skills. These are skills you will need to pass the credential entrance exam. 10% of the final will be based on your basic "set-up" - meaning the instrument and bow hold, bow use and left hand position and action).

HSU required syllabus information. Student Learning Outcomes

HSU Student Learning Outcomes

HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

- Effective communication through written and oral modes.
- Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.
- Competence in a major area of study.
- Appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities and viewpoints.

HSU graduates will be prepared to:

- Succeed in their chosen careers.
- Take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.
- Pursue social justice, promote environmental responsibility, and improve economic conditions in their workplaces and communities.

Area C SLOs

Upon completing this requirement, students will:

- Apply discipline-specific vocabulary and central discipline-specific concepts and principles to a specific instance, literary work or artistic creation.
- Respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will differentiate between emotional and intellectual responses.

- Explain the nature and scope of the perspectives and contributions found in a particular discipline within the Arts and Humanities as related to the human experience, both individually (theirs) and collectively.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and cultural elements involved in the creative arts through their (or, “as a result of their”) participation in and study of drama, music, studio art and/or creative writing.

Music Department SLOs

This course will contribute to your acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to these Music Department (and National Association of Schools of Music) learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to hear, identify, and work conceptually with the elements of music – melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, form, dynamics and tempo, and timbre.
- Students will demonstrate familiarity with a wide selection of musical literature representing principal eras, genres, and cultural sources.

This course explicitly contributes to students’ acquisition of skills and knowledge relevant to HSU Learning Outcomes: HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

- Effective communication through written and oral modes.
- Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.
- Competence in a major area of study.
- Appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities, and viewpoints.

HSU graduates will be prepared to:

- Succeed in their chosen careers.
- Take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.
- Pursue social justice, promote environmental responsibility, and improve economic conditions in their workplaces and communities.

Course specific Student Learning Outcomes- 370/371z

- Students will be able to demonstrate correct posture and fundamental playing techniques on the violin, viola, cello and bass.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of string techniques sufficient to teach beginning and intermediate-level students.
- Students will demonstrate familiarity with information needed to teach a beginning strings

class including method books, fundamentals of string instruments care and repair, and information about purchasing instruments.

Academic honesty: Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding academic honesty. For more information, visit: Academic Honesty Policy or HSU Catalog

Students with Disabilities: Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations should contact the Student Disability Resource Center in House 71, 826-4678 (voice) or 826-5392 (TDD). Some accommodations may take up to several weeks to arrange. Student Disability Resource Center

Add/Drop policy: Students are responsible for knowing the University policy, procedures, and schedule for dropping or adding classes. Schedule Adjustments (Adding or Dropping)

Emergency evacuation: Please review the evacuation plan for the classroom (posted on the orange signs) and review Campus Emergency Preparedness

http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/emergencyops/campus_emergency_preparedness.php for information on campus Emergency Procedures. During an emergency, information can be found campus conditions at: 826-

INFO or Emergency Conditions *Attendance and disruptive behavior:* Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding attendance and disruptive behavior: Class Attendance and Disruptive Behavior.