Instructor: Dr. Fagner M. Rocha  
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Office hours: by appointment  

Course Description:

Study of principles and techniques of private and public performance on violin or viola. Detailed study of scales, etudes and the music of different composers, periods and styles. Course may be repeated for credit. Open to music majors only.

Course Content:

Development and understanding of the fundamentals of good musicianship, including: body posture, instrument position, left hand principles, finger placement, accidentals, vibrato, bow hold, sound production, bow strokes, intonation, phrasing, tone production and dynamics through the study of selected repertoire. Development of practice routine and strategies that lead to a successful performance.

Course Objectives:

- Develop good musicianship.
- Develop creative and critical thinking.
- Develop and understand technical aspects of playing a stringed instrument.
- Successfully perform some of the selected repertoire in a studio class or recital.

Course Requirements and Expectations:

- Attendance is required for this course. Any absences should be informed at least 24 hours in advance. Special cases will be analyzed individually.
- Students are expected to participate by actively playing their instruments and other learning activities.
- Students are expected to practice their instruments at least 2 hours daily. That does not count time spent on rehearsals or performances.
Grading

Lesson Grade (30%) – Students will receive a grade for each lesson (0-10), based on their readiness for the lesson.

Midterm playing exam (20%) – Consists of a playing exam with assigned scales and etudes to be completed by the end of the 8th week of the Fall 17 semester.

Final playing exam (30%) – Consists of a playing exam with selected repertoire and techniques from course material in front of a faculty jury panel on December 8.

Attendance (10%) – Lessons are once a week at a regularly scheduled time. Unexcused absences are NOT permitted. If you miss a lesson and do not contact your teacher prior, you will not be allowed to make up that lesson and your grade will reflect an “F” for the missed lesson. Two absences imply a lower letter grade at the end of the semester.

Studio Class (10%) – Studio class will meet as determined by the instructor. Attendance is required for all string majors. Unexcused absences and tardiness will be treated the same way as in private lessons. Punctuality is very important in the music world. You are expected to be on time and warmed up for your lesson and studio class.

Other Required Events:

Include events such as your applied instructors’ performances, guest artist masterclasses and recitals within your applied area, Junior and Senior Recitals by your applied studio colleagues, and other events assigned by your applied instructor.

Accompanists:

Public performance (student recital, jury, etc.) of any accompanied piece MUST INCLUDE the accompaniment. If you choose NOT to use the staff accompanist, it is your financial responsibility to engage an accompanist of your choice and inform your applied instructor of your choice. You must rehearse with your accompanist at least once before playing the piece in a lesson for your applied instructor.

Maintain a professional relationship with any accompanist and fulfill your financial obligation to them in a timely manner. This applies when you are using a non-staff accompanist.

Failure to follow these guidelines falls into the category of ‘professionalism’ under Studio Grade and may adversely affect your final semester Studio Grade; plan accordingly.

Practice:

Daily practice time must be scheduled as though it is another class. Write it in your calendar and treat it as an important daily routine. Practice must not be an afterthought or something that is done IF you get done with your homework and work schedule. Practicing must take precedence over any homework or work schedule you may have.
It is expected, WITHOUT CONDITION, that students practice a minimum of TWO HOURS each day. This does not include time spent in rehearsals.

Value statement:

The music faculty believes that students cannot expect to teach what they themselves cannot demonstrate. Students will be expected to achieve proficiency on their respective instruments. As a result, the student must ensure that his/her instrument takes top priority in his/her music studies. Successful professional educators are also successful performers.

Cell-Phone Policy:

The use of cellular phones (including for texting) during class, will not be tolerated without prior permission from the professor, and this will only be granted in emergencies. Cell phones will be turned to the “off” or “silent” position for the duration of class. Cell-phones will be allowed for recording purposes.

Academic Honesty:

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook. In essence, the willingness to cheat undermines our purpose at the university. Plagiarism is, quite simply, turning in someone else’s language, paragraphs, ideas, or writing for credit without adequately documenting your sources. Plagiarism includes letting your parents write your essay (even small portions) or turning in an essay from high school for credit in this class. To read more, check out the Center for Academic Integrity.

University Course Withdrawal Policy:

The last day to drop or totally withdraw from regular session courses and the University is Wednesday, November 2, 2016. Withdrawal grades will be indicated with W.

Students with Disabilities:

Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation. The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process.

Official ASU Policy on Religious Holiday absence exemptions:
1. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code §11.20.

2. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

3. A student who is excused under section 2 may not be penalized for the absence; however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.