Instructor: Dr. Christine R. Kralik
Office: Room 197
Office Phone: (801) 971-8270
e-mail: Christine.kralik@angelo.edu or Christine.kralik@yahoo.com
Office hours: by appointment

Course Description:
The intent of this course is to prepare music education majors to teach beginning strings (violin, viola, cello and double bass) in a heterogeneous string classroom setting.

Course Content:
Basic techniques used to teach and play string instruments: beginner student setup, finger tapes, games for the classroom, care and maintenance, body posture, instrument position, left hand principles, finger placement, accidentals, shifting, vibrato, bow hold, sound production, bow strokes, intonation, note reading for beginning orchestra, lesson plans, repertoire selection.

Course Objectives:
At the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate and teach on all the stringed instruments:
• Proper instrument and body posture
• Proper bow hold
• Proper left hand position and finger placement
• Perform beginning repertoire on at least one of the string instruments

Required Textbooks:

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. Research shows that modeling (demonstration) playing skills for students is the most efficient and effective way for students to learn. Playing skills will be taught daily in class. Therefore, attendance is crucially important. Class meetings are also designed to prepare you for possible future job
requirements. Therefore, it is critical that you attend every class and be on time with all materials needed for class. Each unexcused absence will result in lowering your final grade in the course by one partial letter grade (Example: You earned an A- for the course. You will now receive a B+ for having ONE unexcused absence.)

- Students are expected to practice actively in learning activities.

  Students are expected to display ACTIVE participation in all learning activities. Though this is a performance-based class, there will be opportunities for group discussion. Students are expected to demonstrate evidence of having read and considered all assigned readings through participation in class discussions and thoughtful inquiries. Students are expected to encourage and to be respectful toward the contributions of others to foster a safe learning environment for all.

- All reading assignments are required. Some reading will require a written essay.

  Students will prepare for class by pre-reading an assigned article and writing a brief Article Review over the content of that article or chapter. The review is not a summary of the article. The Article Review should reflect 5 points that you found interesting or new and a brief explanation of how you will implement those five suggestions from the article into your future teaching. The Article Review will be turned in and graded. While this is not a writing course, you must be able to communicate professionally in writing throughout your career. Suggestions will be made to each student on how to better their writing and will be a part of the grade earned for each Article Review. You will turn in a typed copy of the Article Review on the due date in class. No late reviews will be accepted.

- Students are expected to practice their instrument weekly. All students are expected to arrive at each class meeting with required materials and have sufficiently prepared to perform the assignments. In-class guidance and individual practice time will directly affect the quality of your performance in this class and your earned course grade. Office hours are also available for assistance, if needed.

- Students are required to have the required text, something to take notes in, and keep track of any handouts or music, such as a three-ring binder and a notebook to keep track of class progress.

- You must have a pencil in class!

- Students are required to perform in all performing tests throughout the semester.

- Students will observe TWO PUBLIC school BEGINNING orchestra classes. You may observe Ms. Emilee Rocha at Central High School or an approved by me class. Take observation notes that are detailed and clear. Take special note of strategies and techniques used in the class. Your notes should come to 2 pages in length, typed, double-spaced.
• Peer Teaching - Students will plan and teach a beginning lesson to a peer not in the course, using strategies covered in the course. Further, examples of expectations will be demonstrated in class prior to students presenting their teaching video. Each lesson must consist of at least one right hand skill, one left hand skill, and ear training/intonation. These lessons will be filmed by the student and uploaded to youtube for my grading. The lesson must be at least 20 minutes in length and no longer than 30 minutes.

**Performance Check Up:**

There will be a total of four performing tests. These tests will consist of an individual performance of an assigned excerpt from repertoire previously learned in this course.

**Midterm and Final exam:**

The midterm and final exam will consist of a written and a playing/teaching portion.

**Grading:**

Reading assignments and Article Reviews (20%)
Performance Check Up (20%)
Peer Teaching (10%)
Beginning Orchestra Classroom Observations (10%)
Final Written and Playing Exam (40%)
TOTAL = 100%

**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 1, 2018.** 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.