MUSC 3604: String Techniques and Materials
Tuesdays ~ 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Humanities Hall 331

Instructors

**Bowed Strings**
Mr. Christopher Mosley
cmosley@westga.edu
Phone: 404-514-3123
Office: Humanities 331

**Guitar**
Dr. Harry Nelson
hnelson@westga.edu

Office hours: 4:30-5:00 and arranged

Course Description
This course introduces students to principles, fundamentals, and techniques of playing the violin, viola, cello, string bass, and guitar. It includes a survey of instructional methods and literature.

Learning Outcomes
The student will:
1. Tune and correctly hold the violin, viola, cello, string bass, and guitar
2. Perform basic bow strokes
3. Perform basic finger style and plectrum techniques on the guitar
4. Perform standard left-hand fingering patterns
5. Play selected melodies and major scales with controlled timbre and accurate pitch
6. Apply basic maintenance techniques
7. Explain outcomes (1-5 above) and assist others in achieving them
8. Locate and understand basic strings-education literature

Required Texts (all available in the bookstore)
- *Suzuki Violin School, Violin part. Volume 1*
- *New Directions for Strings: A Comprehensive String Method. Violin Book 1*

Evaluation
1. Group Performance 10%
2. Lesson plans 20%
3. Teaching presentations 20%
4. Exams over bowed strings 25%
5. Exam over guitar 10%
6. Participation 15%

Above 90% = A; above 80 = B; above 70% = C above 60% = D

Should an approved opportunity arise, students may have the option of earning up to 3% points of extra credit by observing and reporting on an elementary or secondary level “strings experience.” This would need to be approved by September 17th and completed and submitted by November 5th.
Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to your success in this course, especially as this course only meets once a week. Your participation is vital, and you cannot participate if you are not here! Attendance will be taken, and absences and tardiness will affect your grade. If you must be absent, you should inform me ahead of time. Students with conflicts due to music department events may be required to attend extra special class sessions. You must take the responsibility to submit appropriate documentation for absences due to medical and family emergencies and official music department activities for them to be excused. Students with more than 150 minutes of unexcused absence or tardiness will automatically forfeit all participation points.

Out of courtesy to your instructor and fellow students:
- please arrive on time
- turn off all cell phones before entering the classroom.

All course work (quizzes, tests, and exams) must be completed by the deadlines given in the syllabus. Please see me if you have any questions or concerns about this policy before any problems arise.

Academic Integrity

I take academic honesty very seriously. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s ideas or words as your own. This definition includes copying another student’s work, as well as using material from a book or Internet site without citing your source. If you plagiarize any part of an assignment for this course, you will receive a zero for the assignment. You should also review UWG-wide policies at https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php. It contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Description</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 August</td>
<td>Introduction to Bowed Strings/ The Circle</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 August</td>
<td>Violin/ The Instrument</td>
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<td>3 September</td>
<td>Violin/ The Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 September</td>
<td>Violin, intermediate techniques / The Science</td>
<td>Violin playing exam 1</td>
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<td>17 September</td>
<td>Violin / Viola</td>
<td>Lesson plans due</td>
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<td>24 September</td>
<td>Violin/ Cello</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 October</td>
<td>Violin, advanced techniques/ Cello</td>
<td>Revised lesson plans due</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Violin/ Viola/ Cello/ String Bass</td>
<td>Violin playing exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>Orchestral Playing/ The Language</td>
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<td>22 October</td>
<td>Orchestral Playing</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 October</td>
<td>Teaching Presentations (mini lessons)</td>
<td>Teaching Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 November</td>
<td>Introduction to Guitar</td>
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<td>12 November</td>
<td>Guitar</td>
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<td>19 November</td>
<td>Guitar</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 November</td>
<td>Thanksgiving recess</td>
<td>Group Rehearsals</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 December</td>
<td>Guitar Exam/ Bowed String review</td>
<td>Guitar Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Bowed String Exam &amp; Chamber Performances</td>
<td>Bowed Strings Exam Chamber Groups</td>
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<td>5:00-7:30 p.m.</td>
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