Casper College Course Syllabus
MUSC 1120: String bass instruction

Spring 2015

Lecture hours: (Studio)
Credits: 1.00
Class Day & Time: Wednesday afternoons at a time to be arranged
Location: Music Building room 126
Instructor: Dale Bohren
Office: 126
Phone: 307-267-3870  cellular
e-mail: dbohren@caspercollege.edu  dale.bohren@yahoo.com (I check this one daily)
Office Hours:  By appointment
Contact Info: Calling or texting during normal business hours is fine. Email is a great way to reach me. I will usually respond within a few hours.

Course Description: 30–minute weekly private instruction in the specific instrument for majors and non-majors. Majors attend scheduled studio classes and perform a final jury. A course fee is assessed.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Open to all students

Goal: to build fundamental reading, technical and musical skills in string bass performance.

Outcomes: A curriculum outlining minimum requirements will be adopted for each student depending on his or her current level. It shall include abstract technical exercises as well as appropriate repertoire from the Baroque, Classical or Romantic styles, and/or jazz and other improvisational performance. In all cases, students will learn some degree of the objectives listed below depending on each student’s individual ability. These objectives will be adopted by the instructor for each individual student.
1. Whole body posture
2. Bow hold
3. Instrument(s) hold
4. Tuning techniques
5. Left and right hand coordination
6. Rhythm techniques
7. Shifting
8. Vibrato
9. String crossing

A minimum of 3 major and minor scales, assigned by the instructor, will be studied and performed. A minimum of 3 student appropriate etudes or songs, assigned by the instructor, will be learned and performed. Repertoire assigned will cover at least 2 different styles.

Methodology: One 1/2-hour private lesson plus a minimum of five hours practice per week. The student is required to keep a weekly practice log and submit it at each lesson. Lesson day and time to be arranged.
**Evaluation Criteria:** Grades are based on attendance, improvement, and weekly student preparation based on the instructor’s observations and practice log. The student may ask the instructor at any point during the semester for a verbal assessment of the student’s improvement and preparation.

LESSON points: 75 (5 points per lesson)
Practice Log, Recording Log and Weekly Progress

FINAL Performance: 25 total points

These points will be totaled and the grades will be based on these points, alone.

- 91-100 = A
- 81-90 = B
- 71-80 = C
- 61-70 = D
- 60 and below = F

**Required Texts, Readings, and Materials:** Simple repertoire equal to the Simandel method books are employed. Students are responsible for purchasing their own music in a timely fashion. When materials are loaned, the borrower is responsible for the care and return of the materials. The borrower will replace items that are damaged or lost. All borrowed items must be returned by the end of each term or the instructor will hold the final grade.

Outside performance, attending concerts, viewing YouTube videos and reading is strongly encouraged. Please consult with the instructor for recommended materials.

A 3-ring notebook is required for the practice log.
A laptop or other recording device is expected at EACH lesson.

Casper College does have a limited number of rental instruments. Please have a QUALITY instrument, case and bow with real horsehair, and rosin. If proper repairs are not made or supplies are not purchased, the instructor reserves the right to dock the final grade by 10 %.

Other materials that are highly suggested are: metronome, tuner and music dictionary.

**Class Policies:** Last Date to withdraw with a “W” grade: See College catalog.
**Missed Lesson Policy:** The scheduled lesson time is arranged at a mutually convenient time for the student and the instructor. Great care is taken when scheduling applied students. It is essential that the lesson time and day be adhered to. Lessons missed for any reason are forfeited. Lessons missed because of illness or family emergency as documented by the Dean of Students may be made up at the instructor’s discretion. Lessons missed because of the instructor’s professional absence will be made up whenever possible. Missed lessons, unless pre-arranged with the instructor, may result in a lower final grade. 2 unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor,
you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Calendar of course content:** …to be determined by the skill of each student. Convocation, a biweekly student recital, is scheduled by the Department during the fall and spring semesters. Students enrolled in MUSC 1120 may elect to participate by performing on the recital with instructor permission.

Required Studio Class Dates (for majors only):