Casper College Course Syllabus
MUSC 1335: String Methods II

Spring 2016
Lecture hours: 0 Laboratory hours: 2 Credits: 1
Class Day & Time: T/TH 10:00-10:50 a.m.
Instructor: Jennifer Cowell E-Mail: jcowell@caspercollege.edu
Office: Music Building 211 Phone: 268-2531
Office Hours: Posted on the door of room 211
Contact Info: Please e-mail or call my office.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide music education majors the opportunity to further develop performance skills necessary for teaching strings in a classroom setting. Students will learn advanced techniques on violin, viola, cello and bass during this course. Students will also learn how to play and conduct a classroom strings ensemble. Various levels of repertoire will be discussed and played.

Prerequisite: Music education majors.

Goal: The goal of this course is to provide sufficient background, technique, materials and methods to assist you in teaching elementary and secondary string ensembles. Advanced techniques on all four stringed instruments will be explored.

Outcomes:
Students will:

1. Learn beginning bass skills.
2. Learn advanced techniques (shifting, vibrato and spiccato) on the violin, viola, cello and bass.
3. Teach beginning technique on violin, viola, cello and bass.
4. Discuss various teaching methods in strings technique, classroom discipline, and motivation.
5. Keep a notebook consisting of class notes, handouts, questions on readings, written assignments, exam, etc. This notebook will be turned in at the end of the semester. The notebook will serve as a reference guide for the student who chooses to enter into the string teaching profession.
6. Conduct a small ensemble, demonstrating proper conducting techniques.

Methodology: Two fifty minute classes weekly.

Evaluation Criteria:

20% Questions on assigned readings
30% Playing and teaching exams (with lesson plans)
25% Midterm and final exams
10% Notebook
10% Method Books Review
5% Attendance

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

- 90-100 = A
- 80-90 = B
- 70-80 = C
- 60-70 = D
- 60 and below = F

**Required Texts, Readings, and Materials:**


Other reading materials will be available on reserve at the library.

**Class Policies:** Last Date to withdraw with a “W” grade: Consult Casper College catalog.

- Attendance Policy: This is a lab class that requires consistent attendance. Excessive unexcused absences (more than 4) will result in a failing grade.
- Late Assignments: Late assignments will receive a full letter grade deduction. NO EXCEPTIONS will be made to the late assignment policy.

**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.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

**Calendar of course content:**

- Week 1 Tuning the Bass (Lamb 10)
- Week 2 Beginning Bass Fingerboard Geography
Week 3  Bass Bowings  Playing Test #1
Week 4  Beginning VIBRATO sequence
Week 5  Beginning Shifting sequence
Week 6  School String Program (Lamb 13)  Playing Test #2
Week 7  Methods Book Review
Week 8  MID TERM REVIEW: Bass Playing Exam
Week 9  Repertoire for 5th grade
Week 10 Repertoire for 6th grade  Playing Test #3
Week 11  Bowings
Week 12  Middle School Repertoire
Week 13  Solo Literature  Playing Test #4
Week 14  Small Ensemble Literature
Week 15  Semester Review/Observations in Public Schools

Final Time and Date: TBA
Final Playing Test, Written Exam, Final Paper and Notebooks DUE