MUS 353: Private Violin Lessons for Performance Majors
Course Syllabus

Course Meeting Time: By Appointment
Course Location: Patterson Hall (PH) 61B

Professor:
Dr. Melinda Crawford Purttu
Office: Patterson Hall; Room 61B
Office Hours: As according to the schedule on the office door and by appointment
Office Phone: 724-946-7271
E-mail: perttumh@westminster.edu

Course Description: Two, one hour private lessons per week. A ten-minute juried performance at the end of the semester is required. The jury program shall be chosen from the literature covered in the lessons during that semester. For each semester beyond the fourth of private lesson study, the student is required to prepare a new work for performance at the jury without the instructor’s assistance. A piano accompanist is required for all programmed jury pieces that have accompaniment parts. In addition, participation in the weekly string master class and the twice weekly colloquium is required. Performing once a semester in colloquium is also required.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the performance major.
Credit: 2 semester hours.
Students must attain a grade of B- or higher in order for this course to count toward the music major.

Course Outcomes:
The student will be able to demonstrate improvement on the violin through the performance of scales, etudes, and solo works. This improvement will be evaluated through the jury at the end of the semester.

Required Course Materials: Each student is required to maintain a spiral-bound notebook in which to take lesson notes, notate goals, and to log questions for the instructor. Each student must also have a functioning metronome, a functioning tuner, and an extra set of strings. The student is responsible for obtaining all of the printed materials needed for their lesson. Finally, the student is also responsible for making sure that his/her personal instrument is kept in good care.

Attendance: As with any class, students are expected to attend all lessons. Should there be any reason that there is a conflict with a scheduled lesson, the student must inform the instructor immediately via email. The lesson will then be rescheduled based upon the availability of the instructor. If a student does not show for a lesson, the lesson will be forfeit and the student will receive a failing grade for that lesson. Lack of preparation is no excuse for rescheduling lessons.

Required Performances/Recitals: Sophomores will be required to prepare to perform for their Sophomore Hearings. Juniors will be required to register for MUS 397 Junior Recital. Seniors will be required to register for either MUS 601 Capstone Recital or MUS 602 Capstone Lecture Recital depending on their degree program.

Grading: Lessons will be evaluated based on preparation, improvement, and the meeting of established goals. It is therefore imperative for the student to organize their schedule in such a way that permits frequent in-depth practicing. The standard upon which each lesson will be evaluated will be based on the established weekly goals agreed upon from the previous lesson. In addition, each lesson will be graded on a 0-4 scale as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>All goals met. Outstanding quality.</td>
<td>93-100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>All goals met. Acceptable quality.</td>
<td>90-92 A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Most goals met. Outstanding quality.</td>
<td>87-89 B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Most goals met. Acceptable quality.</td>
<td>83-86 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Few goals met. Outstanding quality.</td>
<td>80-82 B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Few goals met.</td>
<td>77-79 C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No goals met OR lesson missed</td>
<td>Below 60 F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale:
93-100 A
90-92 A-
87-89 B+
83-86 B
80-82 B-
77-79 C+
Below 60 F

The grade from the string master class (MUS 600M) is integrated into the private lesson grade. Therefore:
Private Lessons: 80% of final grade
Masterclass: 10% of final grade
Jury: 10% of final grade

**E-mail and Computer Use:** Students are required to use the Westminster.edu e-mail account and network accounts, or must have their e-mails forwarded from Westminster.edu to another account. In addition, students are required to check e-mail with reasonable frequency, preferably every day, as important course updates may occur via e-mail rather than in class, in an effort to preserve valuable class time. If e-mail accounts are too full or over quota, I will NOT resend e-mails; students are required to monitor the quotas on their accounts. Additionally, all class information will be posted on My.Westminster.

**Academic Honesty:** This course conforms to Westminster College’s Academic Integrity policy as found in the student handbook.

**Student Support Services and Special Accommodations:** Students who have special needs that may affect their academic or personal life should seek resources on campus to assist them, such as Disability Support, the Learning Center, Diversity Services, and Library Instruction. In this course, accommodations consistent with college policy will be made for students who are utilizing appropriate support services. After consulting with the appropriate support service, students are encouraged to speak with me in a confidential appointment about necessary accommodations.

**Note on Cellphone Use:** Cellphones must be silenced during the lesson. No texting is permitted.