

Sul Ross State University

MUS 1114-001: String Techniques

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Fall 2015
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TR 9:00-9:50
FAB 100
Office Hours: Posted on
FAB 100 Door
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Text: The instructor will provide written materials to the students for this class.

Supplies: The student is expected to keep his assignments and handouts in order in a 3-ring binder or some type of folder or notebook.

Music Standards: For students who are pursuing Teacher Certification in Music, the following Music Standards (as issued by the SBEC) apply to this course:

Standard I- The music teacher has comprehensive visual and aural knowledge of musical perception and performance.

Standard II- The music teacher sings and plays a musical instrument.

Standard III- The music teacher has a comprehensive knowledge of music notation.

Standard IV- The music teacher creates and arranges music.

Program Learning Outcomes for Music:

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she:

1. Is able to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance
2. Is able to prepare appropriate program notes
3. Is able to evaluate and critique a musical performance
4. Has a general knowledge of music history

Course Description: This course is intended to give students a basic knowledge of the bowed string instruments, guitar and ukulele.

Student Learning Objectives:

Be able to label the different parts of these instruments and know which terms they share in common.

Be aware of the difference in sizes in these instruments especially as it applies to teaching children.

How to select and replace strings for these instruments
How to evaluate the condition and playability of these instruments

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Proper care of these instruments
Know the range, tuning and notational possibilities for these instruments
Proper playing techniques for these instruments

Attendance:

Quoting from page 66 of the SRSU 2014-2016 Catalog: “The instructor will drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences... an absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class... An absence because of participation in an official University activity is considered to be an authorized absence... Any student dropped for excessive absences will receive an “F” in the course dropped... The grade of **W** is given for courses dropped after the 12th class days through the last day to drop a course with a **W** as published in the University’s calendar. Students who wait until the published deadline must have complied with the class attendance policy of this catalog. An instructor is not obligated to recommend a **W** for a class if excessive absences have occurred.”

Tardiness: Students who arrive after the instructor has taken roll will be considered tardy. Students who are habitually tardy may, at the instructor’s discretion, be asked to explain/perform the previous class assignment

Grading: There will be 10 written and /or playing tests, including the final exam. They are all counted equally in grade averaging. **Students who do not take their tests on time will have 5 points deducted from their test grade for each class period that they have not taken the test.**

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|---|-----------------|
| 50%- Progress in assignments/ test scores | A= 90-100 |
| 30%- Attendance | B= 80-89+ |
| 10%- Keeping track of handouts | C= 70-79+ |
| 10%- Tardiness | D= 60-69+ |
| | F= 59+ or below |

Class Schedule

Exact dates may be subject to change if more emphasis needs to be given to a particular section. Playing test will be conducted in class but in cases where the student is very uncomfortable playing in front of others the student can arrange to play for the teacher on a private basis.

Aug. 25- Overview of stringed instruments

“ 27- Ukulele- Advantages, tuning, range & notation

Sept. 1- Playing techniques (thumb and index); tune #1

“ 3- Pick and finger-style playing; single-note melody

“ 8- Similarity of ukulele to guitar; cont. w/ tune #1 and single-note melody

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“ 10- Written/playing test

“ 15- Guitar- Different types and sizes; tuning, range; posture; placement of arms/hands

“ 17- Playing techniques for guitar- strumming w/ thumb, index or pick; simplified chords

“ 22- Types of notation- block diagrams, tablature and staff notation; tune #2; bass guitar- techniques, range and notation

“ 24- Guitar choir- advantages for beginners and children; classical guitar technique; single-note melody #2

“ 29- Parts of guitar; evaluating condition of guitar; care of guitar

Oct. 1- Selecting and changing strings

“ 6- Arranging for guitar- chord voicings to use and avoid

“ 8- Written/playing test

“ 13- Bowed Strings- Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass Viol; tuning, range & clefs used in notation

“ 15- Instrument sizes for children- how to determine proper size; parts of the instruments

“ 20- The Bow- Components; preparation, use & care; German and French bass bows; notation; mutes

“ 22- Posture; hand/arm positions for bowed string instruments; bowing on open strings

“ 27- Finger position on the fingerboard; bowing notes on the neck; pizzicato

“ 29- Tune #3; double stops- open strings & fingered

Nov. 3- Care of instruments; anatomy of instruments- the bass bar, sound post & bridge

“ 5- Selecting and changing strings; resetting the bridge

“ 10- Written/playing test

“ 12- Arrange a tune for various instruments for playing portion of final exam- allow students to choose their instrument

“ 17- Cont. w/ arrangement

“ 19- Cont. w/ arrangement

“ 24- Review for written final exam

Dec. 1- Review for written final exam; rehearse arrangement for playing final exam

FINAL EXAM: Tues., Dec. 8th @ 8:00 a.m.

A.D.A. Statement: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C. in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. Email: mschwartze@sulross.edu.

Important Notes Regarding University Policy and Schedule:

Dropping Courses- A student is allowed to drop no more than 6 courses. This policy starts with the incoming freshman class in Fall 2007 and will be in force with all students entering the university afterwards. So think twice before you decide to drop a course.

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Important dates for Fall 2015:

Aug. 27- Last day for late registration and schedule changes

Sept. 7- Labor Day Holiday, no classes

Sept. 18- Last day to apply for Dec. graduation without a late fee.

Nov. 13- Last day to withdraw from the University or to drop courses with a grade of "W."

Drops must be processed and in the Registrar's Office by 4 p.m.

Nov. 25-27 Thanksgiving Holidays