

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**STRING CHAMBER MUSIC (Practicum)**  
**Lesson Time to be Arranged with Professor Forbes**  
**Fall 2015**

**Instructor:** Catherine Forbes

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**Office Telephone Number:** 817-272-1392

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**Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/cathy-forbes>

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Course Number, Section Number, and Course Title:**

All undergraduate and graduate courses covered in this document

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**

Class Time: Individually Assigned; FA 2122

**Description of Course Content:**

String Quartet (Practicum) is offered to the student in the form of weekly group instruction. Group instruction is one hour in length. The specific time is to be arranged with the instructor the first week of classes.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Student will be able to demonstrate proficiency in the following:

- Tuning with others
- Ensemble awareness and rehearsal skills
- Common articulation and bowings
- Rhythmic accuracy
- Matching tone, color, musical nuance
- Clear and convincing phrasing
- Understanding of standard repertoire, musical time periods and styles
- Evidence of musical expression
- Technical control and variety
- Professional presentation

**Attendance Policy:**

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established following attendance policy:

Students must attend all classes and all required recitals/concerts. Unexcused lessons will not be made up and the final grade will be affected. Missed classes will not be made up. See below for additional information.

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to class, a grade of “F” will be given for that week.

**Requirements, Attendance and expectations for Out of Class Study:**

- Evidence of consistent progress by the individual student is expected. It is required that the student come to each rehearsal and each lesson having completed the minimum level of preparation required.
- The ensemble is required to meet and practice a minimum of two hours every week without the coach present.
- Students are required to come to lessons with the instrument and bow in good working order and all materials organized for productive study.
- Lessons and rehearsals will begin promptly at the assigned time. The student is required to arrive prior to the lesson in order to unpack, tune and gather repertoire for the commencement of the class.

**Lesson Recordings:**

Lessons will be recorded on selected weeks. The goal of recording lessons is to develop an objective ear and perspective to carry into the practice room.

The ensemble must either:

- Purchase an SD card (4-32GB) and bring it to every lesson
- Provide their own recording apparatus

Students are required to listen to their recording within 48 hours of the lesson. After listening to the recording, the ensemble can approach the ensuing practice sessions with newly reinforced ideas and objective observations from the lesson.

Students should be observing:

- the main points in the lesson
- their own playing
- the playing of the ensemble
- the teacher’s response
- changes brought about by the teacher’s response
- reminders on how to practice particular passages or techniques
- posture and visible technical issues  
physical tension

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

- Electronic metronome and tuner
- Individual course assignments (repertoire) will be addressed at first week of classes. The course instructor will provide assigned materials.

**Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations with Due Dates:**

- Student will participate in the preparation and performance of one or more works composed for string quartet or the medium appropriate to the group.
- Ensemble will perform in public venues as assigned during the course of the semester.
- Ensemble will be required to perform in the String Chamber Music Recital November 30, 2015 in Irons Recital Hall at 7:30 pm.

- Ensemble will be required to attend the dress rehearsal for the String Chamber Music Recital November 23, 2015 in Irons Recital Hall between 2:00pm and 5:30pm.

### **Grading Policy:**

Weekly Lesson Performance: 60%

Final Exam: 40%

Final grade is based on performance in these main areas:

#### **Weekly Lesson Performance:**

- The student is expected come to each lesson prepared to perform all assigned materials.
- Evidence of consistent progress is expected.
- Responsiveness and focus are required in each class. The student is expected to follow directions quickly and to be receptive to instruction.
- The student will bring a positive attitude to coachings and rehearsals.
- Please no gum, no drinks, and no food in studio during the lesson. Cellular phones must be turned off. Professional/business casual attire please.

#### **Final Exam:**

- Ensemble will be required to perform in in the String Chamber Music Recital November 30, 2015 in Irons Recital Hall at 7:30 pm. The student will be evaluated according to the criteria listed in the Student Learning Outcomes.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: see Requirements for the additional hours per week of the student's own time in course-related activities, including practicing, reading required materials, completing assignments, attending recitals, preparing for juries, etc.**

**Attendance Policy: Students must attend all lessons, all studio class sessions, and all required recitals/concerts. Midterms and Juries will not be made up.**

### **Drop Policy:**

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

### **Disability Accommodations:**

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified

by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

#### **Title IX:**

*The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates.* For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/eos](http://www.uta.edu/eos). For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

#### **Student Support Services:**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

#### **Electronic Communication:**

Students are responsible for checking their MavMail daily.

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for

using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

#### **Student Feedback Survey:**

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

#### **Final Review Week:**

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

#### **Grade Grievance Policy:**

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate/ graduate catalog. For undergraduate courses, see [http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic\\_regulations.aspx#10](http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10); for graduate courses, see <http://www.uta.edu/gradcatalog/2012/general/regulations/#grades>.

#### **Emergency Exit Procedures:**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located to your right as you exit Professor Forbes' studio door. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

#### **Course Schedule:**

Refer to:

#### **Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations with Due Dates Recital Attendance**

Week 1: Repertoire assignments

Week 2: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 3: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 4: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 5: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 6: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 7: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned

Week 8: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned  
 Week 9: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned  
 Week 10: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned  
 Week 11: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Recital and to perform in public venues as assigned  
 Week 12: Prepare for Chamber Ensemble Dress Rehearsal and Recital  
 Week 13: Chamber Ensemble Dress Rehearsal Nov 23, 2015 at 2:00 – 5:30 pm Irons Recital Hall  
 Week 14: Chamber Ensemble Recital Nov 30, 2015 at 7:30pm Irons Recital Hall  
 Week 15: last day of class, sight reading new repertoire

**Students are expected to attend their weekly lessons.**

*“As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.” –Catherine A. Forbes*

#### **Useful Links:**

The following is a list of commonly used library resources:

Library Home Page	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library">http://www.uta.edu/library</a>
Subject Guides	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu">http://libguides.uta.edu</a>
Subject Librarians	<a href="http://www-test.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php">http://www-test.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php</a>
Database List	<a href="http://www-test.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php">http://www-test.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php</a>
Course Reserves	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do</a>
Library Catalog	<a href="http://discover.uta.edu/">http://discover.uta.edu/</a>
E-Journals	<a href="http://utalink.uta.edu:9003/UTAlink/az">http://utalink.uta.edu:9003/UTAlink/az</a>
Library Tutorials	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php">http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php</a>
Connecting from Off- Campus	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus">http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus</a>
Ask A Librarian	<a href="http://ask.uta.edu">http://ask.uta.edu</a>

The Department of Music at the University of Texas at Arlington is committed to providing faculty, staff, and students basic information regarding vocal, hearing, and musculoskeletal health and injury protection. The following links, provided by the National Association of Schools of Music, provide such information. Hard copy of this information may be obtained from the Music Office or from the departmental Hearing Protection and Safety Bulletin Board on the first floor. In addition, complimentary noise reduction ear plugs are available in the Music Office.

**Protect your Neuromusculoskeletal Health and Hearing Every Day** [http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM\\_Advisories/4\\_NASM\\_PAMA\\_NMH-Student\\_Guide-Standard\\_2013July\\_DRAFT.pdf](http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM_Advisories/4_NASM_PAMA_NMH-Student_Guide-Standard_2013July_DRAFT.pdf)

**Protecting your Neuromusculoskeletal Health** [http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM\\_Advisories/5\\_NASM\\_PAMA\\_NMH-Student\\_Information\\_Sheet-Standard%20NMH\\_2013July\\_DRAFT.pdf](http://nasm.arts-accredit.org/site/docs/PAMA-NASM_Advisories/5_NASM_PAMA_NMH-Student_Information_Sheet-Standard%20NMH_2013July_DRAFT.pdf)

#### **Emergency Phone Numbers:**

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381