

COURSE SYLLABUS
APPLIED DOUBLE BASS
Lesson Time to be Arranged by Dr. Unzicker
Spring 2014

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Office Hours: By appointment. To schedule an appointment, email unzicker@uta.edu and include your available times.

Course Number, Section Number, and Course Title:

All undergraduate and graduate applied double bass courses are covered in this document

Time and Place of Class Meetings:

Applied Lesson: Individually Assigned, FA 254

Studio Class: TBA

Description of Course Content: Applied Lessons are offered to the student in the form of private weekly instruction. Each lesson is either one half-hour or one hour in length, depending on the course number. The student's specific time is to be arranged with the instructor the first week of classes.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

Non-Major:

1. Demonstrate proper physical setup
2. Execute assigned scales
3. Demonstrate awareness of fundamental concepts of sound production and control

Freshman:

1. Demonstrate proper physical setup
2. Describe fundamental concepts of sound production and control
3. Execute 75% of the barrier scale requirement
4. Demonstrate fluidity and control over right and left hand coordination

Sophomore:

1. Execute 100% of the barrier scale requirement
2. Describe advanced concepts of sound production and control
3. Demonstrate a variety of musical styles representing different compositional periods
4. Perform a barrier exam (one piece must be memorized)

Junior (Performance):

1. Execute advanced scale technique
2. Perform a full recital (minimum 40 minutes prepared material, one piece memorized). Students must pass recital hearing three weeks before scheduled recital date in order to perform degree recital. Any exceptions must be made in consultation with the area coordinator.
3. Demonstrate advanced technique in bow strokes
4. Discuss style differences between different periods of classical music

Junior (Education/Theory/Media/Business):

1. Perform interval scales in studio class (thirds, sixths)
2. Perform in a public venue (Honors Recital, Music Monday, Studio Recital, etc.)
3. Demonstrate advanced technique in bow strokes
4. Discuss style differences between different periods of classical music

Senior (Performance):

1. Execute advanced scale technique
2. Demonstrate advanced technique in left and right hands
3. Perform a full recital (minimum 50 minutes prepared material, 20 minutes memorized). Students must pass recital hearing three weeks before scheduled recital date in order to perform degree recital. Any exceptions must be made in consultation with the area coordinator.
4. Write program notes, demonstrating knowledge of the composer and his/her compositional time period. First draft due two weeks before recital date.

Senior (Education):

1. Execute advanced scale technique
2. Perform a full recital (minimum 40 minutes prepared material, one piece memorized). Students must pass recital hearing three weeks before scheduled recital date in order to perform degree recital. Any exceptions must be made in consultation with the area coordinator.
3. Demonstrate advanced technique in bow strokes

4. Write program notes, demonstrating knowledge of the composer and his/her compositional time period. First draft due two weeks before recital date.

Graduate:

1. Execute advanced scale technique
2. Demonstrate advanced technique in left and right hands
3. Perform a full recital (minimum 60 minutes prepared material). Students must pass recital hearing three weeks before scheduled recital date in order to perform degree recital.
4. Write program notes, demonstrating knowledge of the composer and his/her compositional time period. First draft due two weeks before recital date.
5. Curricular Practical Training: Students are expected to seek professional opportunities as a part of this course. Participation and progress in these endeavors must be approved and overseen by applied instructor. Private instruction, participation in professional orchestras, and chamber music performance are examples of approved activities. These activities will be assessed as a percentage of the weekly lesson grade.

Requirements, Attendance, and Expectations for Out of Class Study:

Evidence of consistent progress by the student is expected. It is required that the student come to each lesson having completed the minimum level of preparation required. Beyond the time required to attend each lesson, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend additional time each week in course-related activities, including practicing, attending studio class, reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for juries, etc. Please see the following suggested minimum practice hours. The number of hours required for recital/concert attendance will vary from week to week. Please see the list of concerts posted on the Blackboard calendar for the most current schedule.

- Non-performance music majors: 2 hours of practice per day
Performance majors: 4 hours of practice per day
Non-majors: 1 hour of practice per day
Masters of Music in performance: 4 hours of practice per day
- In general, this is the minimum time commitment required to achieve the results expected on an applied instrument. This practice must occur on a daily basis. It is not possible to skip practice days and then make up practice at a later time. Improvement on a musical instrument is cumulative – practice must occur daily.
 - Scales: to be practiced every day. They are the foundation of our technique and our repertoire and are an integral part of a daily practice routine.
 - Etudes and Technical Exercises: will be assigned on a weekly basis. They are very goal specific and should be practiced in this manner. If a student does not have a clear understanding of the manner in which a particular etude or exercise should be practiced, then they should

immediately consult with a fellow student or make an appointment to review the question with instructor.

- The student must be warmed up for the lesson. If the student has evidently not warmed up for 30 minutes prior to the lesson, the overall lesson grade may be affected. If a student has a class immediately prior to the lesson, it is expected that the student will warm up for 30 minutes prior to the class.
- **Students are required to maintain a practice log/journal, until it is no longer deemed necessary by Dr. Unzicker.**
- Students are required to come to lessons with the instrument and bow in good working order and all materials organized for productive study.
- Students are responsible for providing an accompanist when deemed necessary by the instructor. Failure to do so may impact the student's lesson grade.
- The student is required to attend weekly Studio Classes as required by the instructor.

LESSON RECORDINGS

Lessons will be recorded every week. The goal of recording lessons is to develop an objective ear. Hearing ourselves in this "third party" fashion gives us a more neutral perspective in our playing that will help with diagnostics, phrasing, style, and assimilation.

Students will either:

1. Purchase an SD card (4-32 GB) and bring it to every lesson
2. Provide one's own video/audio recording apparatus

Students will be required to listen to/watch the recording each week and maintain a notebook, logging notes from each recorded lesson. Students should be observing:

1. the main points in the lesson
2. their own playing
3. the teacher's response
4. changes brought about by the teacher's response
5. reminders on how to practice particular passages or techniques
6. posture and visible technical issues
7. physical tension

Students are required to listen to their recording within 48 hours of the lesson. After writing down notes from the lesson, the student can approach the ensuing practice sessions with newly reinforced ideas and objective observations from the lesson. The student must bring the notes to the lesson and must produce the notebook upon request. The notebook will be evaluated as part of the Lesson Performance grade.

RECITAL ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all recitals posted and indicated on the Blackboard calendar. If an illness or conflict arises, it is the student's responsibility to receive an excused absence from Dr. Unzicker before the scheduled event. All communication must occur in writing. Make-up events will be offered if it is necessary to miss a concert. However, the student's best effort should be made to attend every scheduled event.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

- Electronic metronome and tuner
- Individual course assignments (solos and etude books) will be addressed at first private lesson. It is the responsibility of the student to order assigned music at that time. Additional work requiring music purchases may be assigned as the semester progresses. It is the responsibility of the student to order assigned music promptly for each new assignment.
- Obtain recordings as assigned. Purchase of one or more CDs may be required each semester.
- SD cards or personal recording equipment (see Requirements)
- Blackboard elearn.uta.edu

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:

Midterms Exam:

4th Semester Midterms: March 28, 2014, 12:00pm

*All 4th Semester (2222 or 2245) Midterms will be heard by the entire string faculty.

All other double bass midterms: The week of March 21, 2014

Repertoire Requirements to be determined no later than March 7, 2014.

Final Jury:

May 6, 2014, Irons Recital Hall

Repertoire Requirements to be determined no later than April 15, 2014

4th Semester (2222 or 2245) Barrier Requirements

In the barrier exam, all students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Demonstrate the full range of the instrument or voice type
2. Demonstrate the ability to play in every key through scales, arpeggios, and/or technical exercises
3. Demonstrate clear and convincing phrasing
4. Repertoire demonstrates an understanding of contrasting musical time periods and styles

5. Demonstrates evidence of musical expression
6. Technical control and variety
7. Memorization Proficiency
8. Professional Presentation

Additionally, double bassists will be able to:

1. Perform E through C scales in 3 octaves, D-flat through E-flat in 2 octaves (Major, melodic minor, harmonic minor, natural minor), memorized. Scales must be performed at a minimum speed of quarter note = 40. One bow per quarter note slurring eighth notes (two per bow).
2. Perform all Major and minor arpeggios in 2 octaves, memorized. Arpeggios must be performed at a minimum speed of note=50 at one note per bow.
3. Repertoire must include at least two selections, one from the baroque or classical period and one from the romantic or 20th/21st century. Students must have a minimum of 15 minutes of repertoire prepared.
4. One piece must be memorized

For double bassists wishing to enter the performance track, the following skills must be demonstrated:

1. Perform scales as listed above. Additionally, for performance majors, slurs are expected in duple, triple, and quadruple values (eighths, triplets, sixteenths).
2. Perform all arpeggios: i, I, vi, IV, iv, d7, D7, up to 3/bow, memorized
3. Repertoire must include a concerto movement and two movements of unaccompanied Bach. Student must have a minimum of 30 minutes of music prepared.
4. One piece must be memorized.

Performance Assignments:

See Student Learning Outcomes

Writing Assignment:

Students are required to write program notes for each piece he/she is working on in the lesson. A preliminary draft will be required no later than two weeks after the piece is assigned. Revisions are expected based on feedback from Dr. Unzicker. Final drafts are required to accompany the performance of the work. Students giving recitals are expected to write formal program notes complete with annotated footnotes. All program notes should have a minimum of three sources, one of which must come from the UT Arlington library. Students may be asked to provide documentation of his/her research process.

Grading Policy:

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Jury/ Recital Hearing: 40%

Midterm: 10%

Lesson Performance: 30%

Recital Attendance: 10%

Studio Class: 10%

NOTE: see “Solo Recital” for the possible exception to the above grading policy.

Final grade is based on performance in these main areas:

Lesson Performance:

The student should come to each lesson prepared to perform all assigned materials including scales, exercises, etudes, solo materials, and excerpts. Evidence of consistent progress is required. Responsiveness and focus are required in each lesson. The student is expected to follow directions quickly and to be receptive to instruction. The student must follow all procedures outlined in Lesson Recordings section. Failure to meet any of these expectations will result in a lower grade. Student success will be charted weekly on the Applied Lesson Sheet written by Dr. Unzicker. The student must keep these forms and bring them to each lesson. It is expected that the student will use this Applied Lesson Sheet, in addition to their notebooks, to prepare for the following lesson.

If a student is more than 10 minutes late to a lesson, **the lesson will be canceled** and considered unexcused. The lesson will not be made up. Please no gum, no drinks, and no food in studio during the lesson. Cellular phones must be turned off. Professional/business casual attire please.

Program notes, as defined in the “Writing Assignment” section, will be graded as part of the lesson performance grade.

Midterm Exam:

Specific repertoire and technical materials will be assigned by the instructor at the beginning of and possibly throughout the semester. The student is required to perform the assigned materials at a level considered competent by the instructor.

Final Jury Exam:

Students enrolled in major or concentration applied study are required to perform for a faculty jury at the end of each semester. The assigned Student Learning Outcomes will be the basis of the student's final jury exam. The student will be evaluated according to the following criteria: tone quality, intonation, technique, musicality, rhythm, and stylistic interpretation. The student is responsible for filling out a jury sheet at the end of the semester. This sheet must be filled out on the computer and the student is responsible for bringing enough copies for each panelist. Dr. Unzicker will provide a digital template no later than one week before the jury.

Recital Attendance:

See "RECITAL ATTENDANCE" above. Dr. Unzicker will post all required recitals/concerts on the Blackboard calendar. Please note that this list is subject to change throughout the semester.

Studio Class:

Students are required to attend all studio class sessions. Time and Location: TBA. Failure to attend studio class will result in a lower grade.

Solo Recital:

Performance majors in their sixth and eighth semesters are required to give solo recitals. Education majors in their seventh semester are required to give a solo recital. Masters students in their fourth semesters are required to give a solo recital. These recitals must be completed in the aforementioned semester. Students must successfully complete and pass a recital hearing no later than three weeks prior to the recital in order to proceed with the recital (see Recital Hearing). It is the student's responsibility to secure the date, time, and committee for the hearing. The recital and hearing date are to be set within the first two weeks of the semester. An area form, to be supplied and approved by the applied teacher, must be signed by each member of the committee. If the recital is not given, the student will receive an incomplete for the semester (I). If the recital is not successfully completed in the following long semester (fall/spring), the grade will be changed to an F.

Recital Hearing:

The recital hearing for all degree recitals is a pass/fail event. Each student in his/her recital semester will be given one opportunity to present and pass the recital hearing. The entire recital program must be prepared and presented in the recital hearing. The student must complete and pass the recital hearing no later than three weeks prior to the recital. Failure to play the hearing no later than three weeks prior to the recital may result in a failed grade for the hearing. The area coordinator must approve any exceptions to this timeline. It is the student's responsibility to secure the date, time, and committee for the hearing. The recital and hearing date are to be set within the first two weeks of the semester. An area form, to be

supplied and approved by the applied teacher, must be signed by each member of the committee. A three-member panel of UT Arlington music faculty will evaluate each recital hearing. A minimum of two faculty members must be from the string area and one of these two must be the applied teacher. In the event that a member of the recital hearing committee is unavailable to attend the hearing in person, video review is a permissible option with the prior approval of the area coordinator.

In the event that the student does not pass the recital hearing, he/she will be given an F in the course and will be required to repeat the course in the following long semester (fall/spring). The student will not be permitted to repeat the recital hearing until the next long semester.

Note: For those on scholarship, failure to meet these minimum requirements could result in loss of scholarship.

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 reading required materials, practicing, 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.

Course Schedule: See "Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates" as well as RECITAL ATTENDANCE.

Students are expected to attend their weekly lessons as well as the weekly Double Bass Studio Class.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus to suit the needs of this class. Any changes to the course or the schedule will be posted to Blackboard (elearn.uta.edu) and emailed to all students.

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://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Americans With Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: All 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 Available: 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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: 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://wweb.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 across the hall from Dr. Unzicker's 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.