

COURSE OUTLINE

**Music 152
String Ensemble**

Catalog Statement

MUSIC 152 is a small string instrumental group that participates in college and community ensembles and activities. Emphasis is on balance, dynamics, phrasing, interpretation, and the ability to play well in an ensemble. This course may be taken four (4) times for credit.

Total Lecture Units: 0.0

Total Laboratory Units: 1.0

Total Course Units: 1.0

Total Lecture Hours: 0.0

Total Laboratory Hours: 48.0

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Prerequisite Skills: The ability to perform on a musical instrument in a band, orchestra, or chamber music ensemble.

Note: An audition is required. Concert dress may be required. Students must supply appropriate instrument.

Course Entry Expectations

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

- perform in a proficient manner on a standard string instrument;
- sight read literature appropriate to the level of literature studied in class.

Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- perform successfully the selected string literature being studied;
- apply principles of ensemble playing by practicing correct balance, dynamics and intonation;
- demonstrate effective rehearsal and performance techniques and etiquette;
- analyze the comparative styles and performance practices of the selected literature being studied.

Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48.0

Introduction (4 hours)

Historical background and traditional performance practice of literature being studied
Discussion of the composers being studied

Literature Preparation (20 hours)

Phrasing, articulation, dynamics and style
Tone Quality
Rhythm and ensemble

String Problems (6 hours)

Bows and bow technique
Left hand technique
Appropriate tone quality
Phrasing and appropriate bowings

Musicianship and Interpretation (10 hours)

Sight reading skills
Phrasing as related to bowing and tone production
The importance of tempi, style, dynamics and traditional interpretation

Concerts (8 hours)

Scheduled dress rehearsals
Scheduled concerts

Methods of Instruction

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

- lecture on historical and/or social context of selected literature being studied;
- demonstrate string techniques through live and recorded examples;
- rehearsal of selected literature;
- discussion of selected literature.

Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in this course:

- individual practice;
- scheduled dress rehearsals;
- scheduled performances.

Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in this course:

- skills examination;
- punctuality, preparedness, and participation;
- attendance in class and at performances.

Textbook(s)

None. Materials are selected from GCC music libraries and are provided for the student's use during the course of the semester. Works will include music from the Baroque period through the 20th century that feature the string ensemble. Composers may include Bach, Mozart, Beethoven,

Dvorak, Stravinsky, or their contemporaries.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- apply appropriate musical terminology when discussing specific compositions;
- apply the principles of chamber music performance by demonstrating correct interpretation, balance, phrasing, dynamics and intonation;
- demonstrate sight reading skills by reading new literature.