Lesson Assignments

Each student will be assigned 1-2 etudes and 1-3 pieces of major repertoire at the beginning of each semester. Scales and arpeggios are a perpetual assignment, ie every student should be in the process of going through either the major or minor circle of fifths at all times. Adequate lesson preparation consists of having at least the following ready to play each week:

1. One scale and arpeggio
2. One etude
3. One piece of major repertoire

In order to prepare this volume of material at an acceptably high level, it is my expectation that all low string performance majors practice a minimum of three hours daily and that all low string music education majors practice a minimum of two hours daily.

Weekly Seminar

Students are required to attend weekly string seminars each Tuesday at 1:10 PM. Locations are variable. A schedule listing all locations for each semester will be distributed during the first week of classes. It is the responsibility of each student to keep track of the location of string seminar each week once the schedule has been distributed.

Students will be assigned to play in seminars on a rotating basis. Since this results in frequent performances, scales, partial pieces or etudes, and “works in progress” are acceptable some of the time. However, each student should plan to give two semi-formal performances in seminar each semester (including piano accompaniment if appropriate.) At least one of these should take place prior to midterms. Semi-formal performances should exhibit a level of preparation sufficient for inclusion on a subsequent General Recital or comparable performance venue.
Grading Policies

Grading will be broken down according to the following percentages:

- Week to week progress in lessons (including concert attendance) -- 50%
- Seminar and/or General performances -- 25%
- Jury -- 25%

Missed lessons -- Each missed regular lesson will lower your final grade by one-half a letter grade unless (1) you have a legitimate excuse, such as illness, and (2) you notify me by phone or e-mail in advance. Missed lessons will only be made up if the two conditions stated above are met, or if the lesson is missed by reason of exigencies in my schedule, such as out-of-town concerts. Missed seminars will also result in the loss of one third of one letter grade.

General Recitals and Concert Attendance

It is the responsibility of each student to keep track of the scheduling of the Department’s General Recitals. These normally fall on Thursdays during the 1:00-2:00 PM time slot, which is a reserved time in all music majors’ schedules. Occasionally extra generals are scheduled during Seminar time (1:00-2:00 PM on Tuesdays.) Attendance at all Generals is mandatory. It is not permissible to attend only part of a general unless you are scheduled to perform on it, in which case you may leave to warm up two numbers before your scheduled performance. Each missed General Recital will result in the loss of one-half of one letter grade.

Students are required to attend 12 concerts or recitals (other than generals) per semester, and should keep a list of events attended with appended programs. Lists of concerts attended will be due at each student’s end-of semester applied jury. The policy of the Department also mandates attendance at a Diversity event (which may serve as one of the twelve) each semester: in the case of the Diversity event (only) students are required to turn in a one or two paragraph “review.”