

## SYLLABUS – SPRING SEMESTER '21

### Course: MVS 2421, Violin Performance; 2 credits

Instructor: Dr. Janna Lower, MUB 303

Office Phone: 273-3175

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Office Hours: Tuesday 7th Period, AND BY APPOINTMENT

Class Schedule: 1 hour private lesson TBA (Rm. 303), Studio Class Tuesday 6th period (Rm. 120)

### PREREQUISITES FOR ALL VIOLIN STUDY

Violin study is open to students who can successfully pass an audition before at least three members of the string faculty. Those students who have not auditioned during one of the regularly scheduled School of Music audition days must arrange an audition before the end of the ADD session at the beginning of the semester in which they wish to enroll. Two contrasting pieces or movements representing different historical styles must be prepared, and sightreading will be given. Those students who are neither music majors nor minors will be accepted only on a space-available basis. All students accepted for violin study must register and play in the University Symphony Orchestra.

### PREREQUISITES FOR MVS 2421

Students must have a solid ability in all the positions as well as double stops and chord playing. Vibrato should be well-developed, and performance skills are expected to be more confident. Mastery of the repertoire below, or whatever may be assigned during the course of 2 semesters of study, is essential to move on from this level.

### COURSE CONTENT

The basic techniques that were solidified in MVS 1411 will be built upon with increasingly mature works. A minimum of 2 Studio Class performances is required. Semester-end juries require 10 minutes of playing time, and do not require contrasting works to achieve the 10 minutes. For all music majors (but NOT minors), a Pre-Professional Jury for admittance to the 3000 level is required at the end of the 2nd semester of 2000-level study. The jury will include a total playing time of 10 minutes; in addition, students must speak for 4 minutes about one of the pieces performed, and will be given sightreading. Students must be passed by a majority of the faculty present.

Typical Etudes: Kreutzer 42 Studies

Dont Op. 35, 24 Etudes and Caprices

Rode Caprices

Typical Repertoire: Unaccompanied Sonatas and Partitas of Bach

Sonatas of Schumann and Beethoven

Concerti of Mendelssohn, Bruch, Wieniawski

**For all other information, please consult the Studio Policy below which outlines all expectations and requirements for all levels of violin study.**

### STUDIO POLICY FOR ALL LEVELS OF VIOLIN STUDY

Grades will be based on four separate factors, each carrying equal weight:

- 1) attendance at lessons, studio classes and required performances/masterclasses;
- 2) lesson preparation, especially etude completion, and general improvement;
- 3) studio class performances;
- 4) the final jury.

#### 1. Attendance:

Attendance at all lessons, studio classes, the professor's concerts, student recitals by members of the Violin Studio and special performances (you will be told about these ahead of time) is mandatory. An absence I don't know about at least 24 hours

ahead of time is **UNEXCUSED**, and each unexcused absence automatically lowers your grade one whole letter grade for the attendance portion, as well as the lesson preparation portion (see below). It is almost impossible to receive an A if you are a "no-show". In cases of serious illness or other emergency arising the day of the lesson, leave a message or text me on my cell phone as well as try to reach me at my office. Absence due to illness must be verified by a doctor's excuse. Always try to call/text me on my cell phone first, anytime between 8 AM and 11 PM. **Email will not cover you, so do NOT email without also texting me that you will be missing a lesson.**

Cell: 352-256-9310

Office Phone: 273-3175

**Students are required to monitor their ufl.edu email accounts daily for receipt of communications, announcements, etc. from the professor.**

## **2. Lesson Preparation:**

If you come to a lesson unprepared, it will be clear you have not practiced between lessons (which is doing the "homework") and you will receive an F for that lesson. Marked improvement must be demonstrated in the next lesson. (Each unexcused absence lowers your grade one whole letter grade in this category as well.) Etudes are expected to be completed and perfected within 1 week. If you take too long to perfect your etudes, that alone will lower this 25% of your final grade. In addition, you must be able to talk about everything you are studying; you should know: composer's dates, brief biographical sketch, form of each movement, musical definitions, etc. You are not being judged by how advanced you are, but by the effort you put into your assignments, regardless of your ability. If you practice carefully, and do your assignments, you will improve, which is essential to moving on to the next level of study. Those starting at MVS1411 must reach the standards of 2421 by the end of the first year; likewise, those studying at the 2421 level must meet the requirements of 3431 before they can move on. All music majors must pass the Pre-Professional Jury before they can be registered for 3431; registration for 4441 is upon successful presentation of the Junior Recital, and is determined by the recital committee of 3 faculty members.

## **3. Studio Class Performances**

Performances in studio class are required of all repertoire studied, (except etudes) and will be graded. Works with piano accompaniment must be performed with accompaniment, and heard in a lesson prior to the class. Undergraduates at the 1000 and 2000 level must perform a minimum of two times per semester; 3000, 4000 and graduate students must perform a minimum of three. The grades will be averaged together to achieve this portion of your grade. It is in your best interest to perform as often as possible.

## **4. Final Jury:**

You will be graded and critiqued by the string faculty at the end of the semester. All those registered at the 1000 and 2000 level need to prepare at least one work for a total of 10 minutes; those registered at the 3000, 4000, and graduate levels must play 2 contrasting works, for a total playing time of 15 minutes. Once a work has been performed for a jury, it may never be repeated in another. All works with piano accompaniment must be performed with a pianist; securing a pianist and getting him/her to show up on time for the jury is your responsibility. Your jury grade will be lowered one whole letter grade if you play without piano accompaniment, or if you are late. The grades assigned by each faculty member will be averaged together to arrive at this portion of your grade. If you do not show up, or you are unable to take the jury, you will receive an Incomplete for the semester; a jury will be held as early as possible in the succeeding semester, and the Incomplete removed. Juries are always the Monday after Reading Days.

For students with disabilities: to request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-3008 (TDD).

## **COVID19 ADDENDUM**

This addendum outlines protocols required by the university to ensure safe instruction for all in the violin studio. We are fortunate that we can have live, in person lessons, for which the following conditions are required:

1. All students must be masked at all times. Bandannas, face guards, kerchiefs, gaiters, etc., are NOT acceptable face coverings. Students must procure masks that cover both nose and mouth.
2. Distancing of 6-7 feet must be maintained at all times.
3. If any student attends a large gathering or party, etc., especially indoors, Dr. Lower must be notified of this, and at her discretion, lessons will continue remotely, not in person, until such time as any potential contagion has passed (generally 2 weeks). There will be no consequence to the grade or standing in the studio for relaying this information.

4. Students may NOT arrive early for their assigned lessons. The room must be cleared for 9 minutes between students, and this will happen during the 15 minute passing period. Students may not enter the studio until instructed to do so by Dr. Lower.
5. Students must bring their own pencil to the lessons.
6. Students must affirm before entering the studio that they have taken their temperature and it is in the normal range, and that they are not experiencing any other symptoms that could be related to the virus (sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, etc.)

As of this writing, our Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> period Studio Class will be taking place intermittently, but Dr. Lower will notify students of those days as soon as is possible. Students will respect the seating arrangement of 120 and the social distancing imposed in the room.

It is noted that at any moment the university – or Dr. Lower - may alter the protocols or suspend in-person instruction, at which time lessons will continue remotely through either Skype, Zoom, prepared videos, or whatever mechanism works best given limitations each student may have for WiFi, etc.