



Pacific University Oregon
College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Music

MUS 233

STRING TECHNIQUES

Fall 2020

Class Days & Times: Monday, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Room: TBA/online

Credits: 1.00

Prerequisites: Declared music education major

Instructor: Dr. Dijana Ihas

Office: TMDE 207

Phone: (503) 352-2102

Email: dihas@pacificu.edu

Office Hours: Monday-Friday by appointment

Purpose of the Course:

The primary purpose of this class is to teach students how to play bowed string instruments (violin and cello) up to lower intermediate level of proficiency. Students will also learn the basics of teaching string instruments in heterogenous settings as well as students will learn basic principles of playing string instruments in school orchestra settings. Similarities and differences between playing/teaching violin and viola as well as playing/teaching cello and double bass will be explained.

Students Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Behavioral Outcomes

At the end of this course, every successful student (one who attends classes regularly and completes all assignments) will be able **to do following:**

- Measure students for proper size of the instrument
- Tune string instruments in pizzicato and with the bow

- Perform/teach proper posture (stance) and taking a bow on violin, viola and cello
- Perform/teach steps for proper instrument hold (violin, viola and cello)
- Perform/teach steps for proper bow hold (violin, viola and cello)
- Perform/teach steps for proper left-hand position (violin, viola and cello)
- Play/teach *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* variations A-E and the Theme
- Play *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* in three different rhythms/arts of the bow
- Play/teach *detache, martele, staccato, portato, spiccato and bariolage* bowing styles (strokes) on open strings cycle as well as on *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*
- Play three fingering patterns (on violin) and three tonal patterns on cello
- Play D, A & G major scale two octaves (on violin) and C major two octaves scale (cello)
- Play/teach simple songs by note

Cognitive Outcomes

At the end of this course, every successful student (one who attends classes regularly and completes all assignments)) will be able to **define, list, identify, explain, discuss, demonstrate, use, relate, organize, value, and/or apprise**, following knowledge and concepts related to playing and teaching string instruments:

- Parts of the instruments and bow
- Accessories
- Taking care of string instruments
- Explain principles of tone production on string instruments
- Explain exercises for shifting and vibrato
- Variety of musical symbols that are unique to string instruments
- Variety of string method books

Affective Outcomes

At the end of this course, every successful student (one who attends classes regularly and completes all assignments) will develop the following **habits and attitudes** towards teaching strings:

- Appreciating and valuing the importance of string education
- Demonstrating dedication to continuous learning and self-development in the area of teaching strings

Required Method Book and Textbook:

Sheila Johnson (1985). *Young Strings in Action: A String Method for Class or Individual Instruction*. Boosey & Hawkes: London, United Kingdom.

Both, the violin and cello books.

John Kjelland, (2004). *Orchestral Bowing: Style and Function*. Alfred Music: Los Angeles, California

Every student is required to have his/her own textbooks **and** method book.

Required Materials:

- Instrument with bow, case and rosin (Music Department will provide this)
- Computer/laptop
- Electronic folder to keep all materials related to the class organized and in one place. Folder must be labeled as MUS 233 – Fall 2020.
- Pen/pencil

Attendance Competency:

This course is designed to cover a vast amount of learning materials in a limited period of time, and your REGULAR and PROMPT ATTENDANCE is of paramount importance to your success in this course.

The class will start promptly on time. Students are expected to be ready for the class at least five minutes before start time with **tuned** instrument, method book and the textbook, ready on their music stands along with computer/laptop for online classes.

NO TARDINESS will be accepted. Arriving to the class after the class begins will result in a half absence. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Do not miss ANY CLASS. This class covers lot of materials in a short period of time. You will not be able to follow the class accordingly if you miss classes! Therefore, SAVE your absences for **true** emergencies **only**.

Missing the class will automatically count as UNEXCUSED ABSENCE. Unexcused absence will automatically lower student's grade for one full grade level. If student missed the class due to illness, family emergency, or academic conflict student will need to bring written note from the doctor, family member, or other class professor as well as student will need to make up all work that was done in the class on the day when student was absent in order to bring the grade one level higher.

Assignments Explained:

MUS 233 is one credit course. One credit course requires minimum of **two hours** of daily homework in the form of practicing instrument on a daily-basses, watching and practicing teaching steps as seen on pre-recorded videos, reading assignments and answering written questions.

Weekly Playing Quizzes: Students will submit pre-recorded playing quizzes for each week by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. (method book)

Weekly Watching Teaching Quizzes: During each class students will demonstrate teaching steps for various playing techniques as seen in supplied videos for this class. Demonstrations will take place in large or small groups.

Midterm Exam: Midterm exam will consist of students playing Twinkle Variations A-E and theme.

Observations: Students are required to complete two one hour-long structured observations of Pacific University String Project classes. String Project classes take place on Tuesdays & Thursdays 4-7 p.m. Written summaries of observations need to be turned in to instructor during the first class after full observation for full credit.

Final Exam: There will be a playing final exam submitted online, along with teaching/oral exam.

Final Exam Date:

Time and location TBA.

Extra Evidence Policy: An “optional” longer playing & teaching test may be done at the student’s discretion to raise the grade.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on an accumulation of points of your attendance and all assignments as explained above. All grades are equally based out of 100 %. The grading scale is as follows:

A	95-100			A -	90-94
B +	87-89	B	83-86	B -	80-82
C +	77-79	C	73-76	C -	70-72
D +	67-69	D	65-66		
F	64 or bellow				

Classroom Conduct:

- Students should come to class prepared and with a positive attitude.
- Students should actively participate in class activities and discussions.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off. If a student uses these items during class, the student will be asked to leave the class and will be marked absent.

- No gum, food, or beverages (except water) are allowed during the class (please).
- Only polite and kind language is permitted in this class.

This syllabus and course agenda is a subject to change, with advance notice, at the discretion of the instructor.

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Pacific University has no tolerance for academic misconduct/cheating. It is university policy that all acts of misconduct and dishonesty be reported to the Dean. Sanctions that may be imposed for such misconduct range from an “F” for the assignment, an “F” for the course, and suspension or dismissal from the university. Forms of academic misconduct include but are not limited to plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, tampering with grades, forging signatures, and using electronic information resources in violation of acceptable use policies.

Support Services for Students with Learning Differences:

If you have documented challenges that will impede your learning in any way, please contact our Office of Accessibility and Accommodation located in Clark Hall (ext.2717; aaa@connect.pacificu.edu). OAA staff will meet with students, review the documentation of their disabilities, and discuss the services that Pacific offers and any appropriate ADA accommodations for specific courses.

The Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS):

The Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS) is located on the second floor of the Tran Library overlooking the lobby. CLASS is an open study space that offers individual tutoring, group tutoring, and guided study sessions for students. CLASS has peer tutors available from 10 a.m. through 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday.