



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

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| Course Acronym: | MUSI |
| Course Number: | 146 |
| Descriptive Title: | Beginning String Instruments |
| Division: | Arts, Media and Entertainment |
| Department: | Music |
| Course Disciplines: | Music |
| Catalog Description: | This course for the beginning musician introduces basic skills and techniques for playing a string instrument. Students select from violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Music reading, tone production, technique, musicianship, and instrument care are emphasized. Students must provide their own instruments. |
| Prerequisite: | |
| Co-requisite: | |
| Recommended Preparation: | |
| Enrollment Limitation: | |
| Hours Lecture (per week): | 2 |
| Hours Laboratory (per week): | 1 |
| Outside Study Hours: | 4 |
| Total Course Hours: | 54 |
| Course Units: | 2 |
| Grading Method: | Letter Grade only |
| Credit Status: | Credit, degree applicable |
| Transfer CSU: | Yes |
| Effective Date: | Prior to July 1992 |
| Transfer UC: | Yes |
| Effective Date: | prior to fall 1992 |
| General Education: ECC | |
| Term: | |
| Other: | |
| CSU GE: | |
| Term: | |
| Other: | |
| IGETC: | |
| Term: | |
| Other: | |

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| CalGETC: | |
| Term: | |
| Other: | |
| Student Learning Outcomes: | <p>SLO #1 Proper Techniques</p> <p>Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate basic elements of proper string instrument playing techniques in a given piece of music.</p> <p>SLO #2 Pitches and Rhythms</p> <p>Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to execute correct pitches and rhythms of a given piece of string music.</p> <p>SLO #3 Terminology and Symbols</p> <p>Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to correctly interpret terminology and symbols for bowing, and perform them in a given piece of classical music.</p> |
| Course Objectives: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and integrate principles of proper string playing including correct posture, instrument position, bow holding position both hand and arm. 2. Demonstrate elements of proper string playing techniques including tuning, tone production, intonation, vibrato, bowing on and off the string, tremolo, and pizzicato in first, extended and half positions. 3. Demonstrate rhythm and pitch accuracy, appropriate bowing, and phrasing. 4. Define and correctly respond to terminology and symbols for tempi, dynamics, musical form, and expression appropriate to the music. 5. Prepare and perform short instrumental exercises, solos, and duets. 6. Integrate principles of proper string playing and playing techniques in a performance. |
| Major Topics: | <p>I. Tuning the Instrument (3 hours, lab)</p> <p>A. Instrument Position</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Left hand playing position, 2. Holding the bow 3. Bow arm <p>B. Posture</p> <p>II. Pitch Notation (9 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Rhythm Notation</p> <p>III. Fingering (9 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Tone production</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vibrato 2. Pizzicato <p>IV. Terminology and Symbols (6 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Tempi</p> <p>B. Dynamics</p> <p>C. Musical form</p> <p>V. Bowing (6 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Staccato</p> <p>B. Tremolo</p> <p>C. Spiccato</p> <p>D. Double stops</p> <p>VI. Extended Hand Positions (6 hours, lecture)</p> <p>A. Half Positions</p> <p>VII. Technical Exercises (12 hours, lab)</p> |

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| | <p>A. Solos B. Duets</p> <p>VIII. Selected Solo (3 hours, lab)</p> <p>A. Preparation B. Performance</p> |
| Total Lecture Hours: | 36 |
| Total Laboratory Hours: | 18 |
| Total Hours: | 54 |
| A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only): | |
| A.2. Primary Method of Evaluation (Part 2 - all courses; choose one): | |
| Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation: | Play a one octave D Major scale, ascending and descending, using pizzicato, single bow, and slurred articulations. |
| Critical Thinking Assignment 1: | Demonstrate the techniques for playing on and off the string in an assigned exercise. |
| Critical Thinking Assignment 2: | Play an exercise using proper dynamics, bowing, and phrasing, paying close attention to string crossing and left-hand position shifts. |
| Other Evaluation Methods: | Class Performance, Performance Exams |
| Instructional Methods: | Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lab, Lecture, Multimedia presentations, Role play/simulation |
| If other: | |
| Work Outside of Class: | Problem solving activity, Skill practice |
| If Other: | |
| Up-To-Date Representative Texts: | Bob Phillips. Sound Innovations for String Orchestra, Books 1 & 2. Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc., 2010. Discipline Standard |
| Alternative Texts: | |
| Required Supplementary Readings: | |
| Other Required Materials: | Music instrument and accessories to be provided by the student. Some large school instruments may be available by previous arrangement with the instructor. |
| Requisite: | |
| Category: | |
| Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites | |

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| and corequisites in this box. | |
| Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). | |
| Requisite Skill: | |
| Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable | |
| Requisite course: | |
| Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). | |
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| Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable | |
| Enrollment Limitations and Category: | |
| Enrollment Limitations Impact: | |
| Course Created by: | Mack and L. Hiigel |
| Date: | 09/01/1984 |
| Original Board Approval Date: | |
| Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: | Polli Chambers-Salazar |
| Date: | 10/02/2025 |