

Syllabus for Weaver Strings, Fall 2024/Spring 2025

Meets daily during 1st Block 9:15-10:45

Instructor: James DeFiglia

Classroom: Rm. 103

Course credit: 1 unit

e-mail: defigl@gsnc.com

Required Materials:

Paper, pencil, staff paper. Music will be supplied by the instructor.

Objectives:

The focus of this course will be the preparation of instrumental string music emphasizing the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras. Performance practices of these eras will be examined by playing multiple works. Major and minor scales up to and including 4 sharps, and 4 flats will be drilled (including their respective arpeggios). This course will also include sight reading.

Attendance Requirement: No more than three absences will be permitted per quarter. Any time absent past the limit must be made up by the student per the GCS policies regarding attendance.

Academic Performance: The student will be required to attend tutorial sessions in the event the student is making a "C" or less in the course. Tutorial sessions for the course will take place during the instructors office hour (Thursday afternoon from 4:00 - 5:00) or by appointment.

Homework:

The homework consists of in school and at home practice on each student's instruments. Students should be consistently engaged with three types of music: solo piece(s), study or etude, class repertoire, and scales/arpeggios/exercises. Solo pieces will be performed in front of the class in the interest of gaining performing experience. Class project will consist of a public performance of a selection of prepared musical works from a variety of historical periods.

Grading:

Students will be graded on the quality of their musical preparation. Each student will be tested on his/her musical part(s) (described above) every three weeks. Playing tests, rehearsals, and performances will count 80% of the final grade. Playing tests will occur approximately every two weeks. The material for these tests will be announced at least a week in advance of the test. These tests will include both a major and minor scale and arpeggios for each. Class participation is necessary for the successful completion of the course and will impact the students' grades. A playing assessment will be performed by the student before two Weaver PVA faculty members during finals week in early January. This assessment will comprise 20% of the students' final grade. Misbehavior on the part of students will not be tolerated. The playing assessment is the students' final exam and will not be exempted under any circumstances.

Grading Scale:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 and below

Consequences for not meeting classroom expectations

1. Warning
2. Student Conference
3. Parent Contact/Conference
4. Counselor Referral
5. Office Referral

From the Weaver Student Handbook:

Weaver students are expected to demonstrate exceptional character. As a reminder about the importance of integrity, students must agree to abide by our code of honor:

I will abide by the Weaver Honor Code. I will not give or receive unpermitted assistance in the preparation of any work or assessment that is to be used by the instructor as the basis of grading.

I have read the syllabus for the Fall 2024 course in Academy Strings taught by James DeFiglia and will also abide by the Weaver Honor Code.

Student Signature and date _____

Parent/Guardian Contact information

Parent/Guardian Name #1 _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Parent/Guardian Name #2 _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Emergency Procedures

Tornado Shelter – Mr Freundt’s Piano Room (across the hall from the strings room).

Lockdown Location – Mr Freundt’s Piano Room (across the hall from the strings room).

Fire Exit – Exit the Strings Room, turn left and walk into the upper lobby then exit through the front entrance of the school (facing Spring St.).