String Division Handbook
School of Music
University of Nevada - Las Vegas
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String Division Professors
Weiwei Le, Violin / String Division Chair
weiwei.le@unlv.edu

Ambroise Aubrun, Violin
ambroise.aubrun@unlv.edu

Kate Hamilton, Viola
kate.hamilton@unlv.edu

Andrew Smith, Cello
andrew.smith@unlv.edu

Brycen Ingersoll, Double Bass
brycen.ingersoll@unlv.edu

Ricardo Cobo, Guitar
ricardo.cobo@unlv.edu
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Dear Student,

Welcome to the String Division of the UNLV School of Music—these are important years in your development as an artist and person. We wish you every success in your student career and we are here to help you in any possible way to reach your potential. This document is designed to answer frequently asked questions about the string division at UNLV. The responsibility for knowing the information contained in this handbook, as with all of UNLV’s school policies and procedures, rests with you. Consult your major teacher first with any departmental questions or concerns.

With best wishes,

Professor Weiwei Le, String Division Chair
Applied Lessons

Music Majors must enroll in applied lessons with the applied teacher of their instrument. It is the student’s responsibility to attend all lessons, be on time and prepared. Should a lesson be missed due to illness or university business (Orchestra tour, etc.) the professor must be notified in advance of the lesson time. Please consult your studio syllabus for further details and policies pertaining to lesson attendance/cancelation and communication policies. Should it be necessary for the professor to miss a lesson, the lesson will be made up at the student’s and professor’s earliest convenience. All undergraduates must consult with Student Advising to map out their curriculum. All Graduate Students (Master, Artist Diploma and DMA) must follow all guidelines in the Graduate Handbook at: https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/assets/degrees/fine-arts/Handbook-Music-Grad.pdf

Your applied professor is one of the most important parts of a musician’s development. Your teacher is among the most vital sources in helping you to make career decisions, both large and small. As in any relationship, issues may arise which need discussion and/or resolution. I encourage you to discuss problems, as they occur, directly with your teacher. Unresolved issues and/or the sense that you cannot discuss problems with your teacher need to be addressed with the String Division Chair.

You are entitled to and required to have 14 private lessons (ranging from 50 minutes to one hour) with your major teacher in the course of each semester. Some teachers give these lessons each week. Others, given the nature of other performance and off campus activities lessons may offer lessons at differing intervals. Others still have teaching assistants to give lessons at times when they are unable to do so. Make certain that you understand your teacher’s lesson schedule plan. If you are concerned that you are not receiving the requisite number of lessons, or have a problem with the frequency of your lessons, notify the chairperson of the School of Music.

Studio Class

Music Majors are expected to attend and participate in a weekly studio class given at the discretion of the professor. While individual attendance policies
between studios may vary, students should not ask to be excused from these classes, as they are considered an important segment of applied lessons.

**Practicing for applied lessons / expectations**

Your progress is evaluated in private lessons throughout the semester. Expectations for progress and practice time will be discussed with your professor and/or outlined in your studio syllabus. However, to avoid injury and make the most progress, consistent daily practice is mandatory and practical. The amount of expected practice time may slightly vary, but in general a two credit hour lesson should require a minimum of two hours of practice per day, three credit hours of study should require three hours of practice and four credit hour lessons should require four hours of practice per day. If you experience pain before, during, or after playing your instrument, discuss it immediately with your major teacher. Physical pain is a sign that you are not using your body correctly. It is highly encouraged that proper and ample physical warm and stretching exercises be systematically utilized.

**Juries**

Every music major enrolled in applied lessons must play a jury during the week of finals at the end of each semester. Jury sheets are available to sign up for a jury time outside the School of Music office on the bulletin board a few weeks before the jury. All undergraduates will perform a 10 minute jury and graduate students will perform a 15 minute jury. Students must fill out and have 4 COPIES OF THE JURY SHEET for the committee at the jury and bring them to the jury. Forms can be downloaded here:

[https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/24/Music-InstrumentalJuryForm.pdf](https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/24/Music-InstrumentalJuryForm.pdf)

Juries are a vital part of your training as a performer, and the resultant scores have bearing on your applied lesson grade as well as other aspects of your standing within the School of Music. Early planning will avoid last-minute scheduling problems. Students are encouraged to read their jury comments available from the applied teacher.
Jury Postponement

The applied teacher and/or String Division Chair will only consider a student petition requesting postponement of a jury in extreme medical conditions (documented by a physician), sudden family emergencies, or other exceptional circumstances. Any student who fails to play a scheduled jury will receive an F for that jury. A postponed jury must be successfully completed not later than the first week of the subsequent semester.

Fall Juries

Beginning in Fall 2018, all violinists, violists, cellists and bassists will perform a TECHNICAL JURY during the allotted jury time. Undergraduate juries will be 10 minutes in length, graduate juries will be 15 minutes in length. No standard solo repertoire will be performed at the Fall jury.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

1) 3 octave scales with arpeggios (specific fingerings, bowings and rhythms will be discussed with your applied professor).

2) 1 or 2 Etudes (as assigned by your applied Professor).

Spring Juries

Will be performed from the standard solo repertoire.

Applied Level IV Jury/ Continuation Jury

This jury, at the end of the level IV applied study, establishes that a student’s progress has been sufficient to reasonably ensure completion of the program of study. The evaluation will determine whether or not a student may continue in that program. Download this form to bring to the jury at the end of your level IV applied lessons:

Recitals

Junior Recital (MUS 399)
All music majors are required to present a recital during their junior year. This recital, consisting of a minimum of 20-30 minutes of music, may be scheduled in conjunction with another student’s junior recital (strongly encouraged). You must present the recital repertoire for faculty approval at the applied jury in the semester before the recital. This recital will substitute for the applied jury and convocation performances in the semester in which the recital is scheduled. Registration for MUS 398/399 must be concurrent with registration in applied music Level V or Level VI. A jury of faculty assigned to attend this recital determines the grade for this performance. Students are responsible for providing their own accompanists.

Senior Recital (MUS 499)
Performance majors are required to present a recital during the senior year. The senior recital must consist of a minimum of 45-50 minutes of music, and you are required to present the recital repertoire for faculty approval at the applied jury in the semester before the recital. This recital will substitute for the applied jury and convocation performances in the semester in which the recital is scheduled. Registration for MUS 499 must be concurrent with registration in applied music Level VII or Level VIII. A jury of faculty assigned to attend this recital determines the grade for this performance.

Master’s Level Recital (MUS 698)
The master’s level recital is a full recital, with a minimum 45-60 minutes of music. MUS 798A may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Consent of the faculty and concurrent enrollment in MUS 762 are required.

Doctoral-Level Recital (MUS 798B)
The doctoral-level recital is a full recital- 60 minutes of music. MUS 798B may be repeated for a maximum of 15 credits. Consent of your examination committee and concurrent enrollment in MUS 764 are required.
Procedures for All Recitals

1. The student must present the recital repertoire for faculty approval at the applied jury in the semester before the recital.

2. For official recitals, undergraduate students enroll in MUS 399 (Junior Recital), or MUS 499 (Senior Recital). Graduate students enroll in MUS 698 (Master’s Recital), MUS 781 (Lecture Recital), or MUS 798B (Doctoral Recital). Please note there is a $50 fee attached to the course.

3. All students must enroll in the appropriate level of Applied Music in the semester in which the recital is scheduled.

4. Scheduling of your student recital is done online at Student Recitals. Scheduling may begin as early as mid-semester with the dates being posted online. Please read the information carefully before submitting your recital request.

5. The student, in consultation with the Accompanying Coordinator and/or the applied instructor, selects the accompanist(s) and keeps a record of rehearsal, lesson and performance hours with the accompanist(s). The recitalist is responsible for all accompanist fees.

6. All completed forms, program, and posters are due three (3) weeks prior to the recital date to the Scheduler. All program content must be in Concert Program Format, and must be emailed to the Scheduler as a Microsoft Word document. Posters must be emailed PDF format, prior to printing. Failure to adhere to this deadline or to use the template may result in recital cancellation or unavailability of services.

7. The jury of faculty assigned to attend this recital will average their grades for the recital and record the grade in Web Grading.

8. A student who fails to complete the recital as scheduled will receive a failing grade and will forfeit the recital fee.
Student Resources/ More Information

https://www.unlv.edu/music/student-resources

Instrumental Lockers

Practice Rooms

Health Issues for Musicians

Music Library