



College of Arts and Sciences

MUSI 3138-110, 11090, String Methods

Spring 2022

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

1/18/2022 - 5/13/2022

This course meets face-to-face (Tuesdays/Thursdays at 3:30-4:20 p.m. in PAC 708 at Temple College), with supplemental materials made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Dr. Alexander Corbett

Office: PAC 3530 (Temple College)

Phone: 254-298-8552

Email: alexander.corbett@tamuct.edu

Office Hours

[Click here to see Dr. Corbett's Spring 2022 Schedule](#)

Student-Instructor Interaction

I check and reply to emails frequently, so please use email to contact me.

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

SAFEZONE. SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - o [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
 - o [Android/Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp): [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp]
1. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
2. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and Description

This course will provide students with a foundation for teaching beginning strings, particularly as it relates to leading string ensembles as music teachers.

Course Objective or Goal

It is the goal of this course that, by the end of the semester, students will feel confident teaching a classroom of beginning string students. Students will develop teaching skills on the violin, viola, cello, and double bass, gaining an understanding of bowing, fingering, and posture. Students will also become familiar with score reading, tuning, sizing, accessories, and basic maintenance specific to string instruments.

Materials

Students will have access to Temple College's string instrument collection. These instruments should not leave the Temple College PAC.

Required Textbook

Applebaum, S. (1985). *String Builder, Book 1: A String Class Method (for Class or Individual Instruction) - Teacher's Manual*. Alfred Music.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance/Participation

Because this is an experience-based course, participation makes up a majority of your final grade. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance and preparedness for the classes. If you absolutely must miss a class, be sure to inform the instructor in advance of the class in question.

All absences will lower the final grade according to the point system below (see “Grading Policies”). The only exception is if the absence is deemed legitimate per TAMUCT policy (i.e. illness or family emergency).

Assignments

Individual Practice (not graded):

- As a musician, you are well aware that practice is essential to maintaining and improving one’s level of playing. Students are expected to adhere to this universal truth and practice their instruments however long it takes to become comfortable with the techniques discussed in class. For some, this is 30 minutes daily. For others, it is 60 minutes daily. **You** are responsible for determining the amount of practice time needed to adequately learn the required techniques.
- Although individual practice is not graded, **preparedness** is. Show up to class prepared. Take out your instrument **daily** to review what we’ve discussed.

Reading/Watching (not graded):

- Each week we will be discussing a different topic (see the “Complete Course Calendar” below). The reading/watching for each new week’s topic will appear on Canvas during the week prior. Read/watch everything **prior** to the new week’s classes.
- Although the reading/watching is not graded, **preparedness** is. Be sure you have read/watched all the materials prior to the class meetings so you are prepared to discuss it.

Concert Reaction Paper (graded):

- Details appear in the Concert Reaction Paper module on Canvas.
- **The paper is due on Canvas on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

Midterm Examination (graded):

- Two portions:
 1. Performance: This will be a live performance in front of the instructor. You will be assigned performance material during the weeks leading up to the examination. **The performances will take place during class time on Thursday, March 10, 2022.**
 2. Written: This test will appear on Canvas and will consist of material discussed in class. Examples include string instrument parts, pedagogical information, and string-related musical terminology. **The written portion will be made available on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. and be due that evening at 11:59 p.m.**

Final Examination (graded):

- Two portions:
 1. Performance: This will be a live performance in front of the instructor. You will be assigned performance material during the weeks leading up to the examination. **The performances will take place during class time on Tuesday, May 10, 2022.**
 2. Written: This test will appear on Canvas and will consist of material discussed in class. Examples include information about pedagogy and string instrument maintenance. **The written portion will be made available on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. and be due that evening at 11:59 p.m.**

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Final grades will be based on the following 1000-point system:

- 580 points for class participation, broken up as follows:
 - attendance (29 classes x 10 points each)
 - preparedness (29 classes x 10 points each)
- 100 points for Concert Reaction Paper
- 120 points for Midterm Examination
- 200 points for Final Examination

Letter grades will be determined as follows:

- A 900 - 1000 points (represents exceptional demonstration of deep, coherent, unified understandings)
- B 800 - 899 points (represents proficient overall understanding)
- C 700 - 799 points (represents acceptable understanding in most areas of theory and practice)
- D 600 - 699 points (represents developing understanding with some critical deficiencies)
- F 0 - 599 points (represents unsatisfactory understanding with significant deficiencies remaining)

Posting of Grades

Every effort will be made to post grades in a timely fashion after completion of tasks and assignments. Final grades will post to Canvas after completion of course requirements.

Grading Policies

Late Work Policy:

If an assignment is submitted after its due date, it will be docked 10% each day it is late. For instance, if an assignment is submitted up to 24 hours late, the top score you can receive on it is 90%. If an assignment is submitted 24-48 hours late, the top score you can receive on it is 80%. And so on. Points will stop being deducted once the assignment's score reaches 0. (Exception: at the end of the semester, final grades are due to TAMUCT on a certain day/time. Any work that has not been submitted by that day/time will receive zero points regardless of how far past the assignment due date that day/time is.)

Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism is stealing. It will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic 0. If you copy more than five consecutive words of somebody else's writing into your writing without including quotes and citations, it will be considered plagiarism.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar

- Week 1 Syllabus, Canvas, string instrument access, violin
- Week 2 Violin, string instrument clefs, parts, posture
- Week 3 Violin, bow holds, right elbow levels, rules for getting a good sound (no Thursday class meeting)
- Week 4 Violin, left hand rules, left elbow levels, left hand technique (no Thursday class meeting)
- Week 5 Viola, technique vocabulary, positions and shifting
- Week 6 Viola, tuning, order to teach items
- Week 7 Viola, review for midterm
- Week 8 Viola, Midterm Examination
- Week 9 Cello, changing strings

Week 10	Cello, fractional size instruments, fingerboard tapes, instrument maintenance/cleaning, mutes
Week 11	Cello, rosin, bow repairs, where to purchase instruments/accessories
Week 12	Cello, string music acquisition, TMEA/UIIL websites
Week 13	Bass, lesson plans, Concert Reaction Paper due
Week 14	Bass, tuning
Week 15	Bass, review for final
Week 16	Final Examination

Important University Dates

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tam.u.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat: http://hdc.tamu.edu](http://hdc.tamu.edu)

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](#),
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](#),
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required)
[<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu.

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT) [https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Spring 2022 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and

connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WCOOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via [WCOOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/].

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively

create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage \[https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html\]](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html).

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/bit]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.