Course Description

This course is designed to guide the cellist progressively and methodically towards instrumental proficiency and musical maturity. Lessons are designed for each individual student to improve his/her technical and interpretive skills with practical information about how to practice to achieve those goals.

The overarching principles to be addressed in this class are as described in Janos Starker’s *OMSP: Organized Method of String Playing*. The four areas of concentration are: *Playing Preparation; Right Arm-Hand-Fingers; Left Arm-Hand-Fingers; and Musical Application.*

A clear understanding and working knowledge of these principles will, over time, produce a mature and clear-thinking musician, equipped with the tools and the skills to effectively diagnose and solve musical and technical problems.

These skills develop through practicing, performing and sight-reading standard cello repertoire, as well as etudes, and orchestral excerpts. Musical knowledge and musicianship are enhanced by listening to recordings while examining subtleties of phrasing, style, stylistic variation and contrast as well as the application in performance of acquired historical and theoretical knowledge.
This course is a progressive four-year course of study designed to produce a cellist capable of performing solo cello literature at an advanced level in all styles and contexts. Weekly assignments and lessons focus on the individual student's growth. The ultimate goal of applied instruction is for the student to become his/her own teacher and guide.

For graduate students, the expectation is higher and includes repertory appropriate for a graduate student.

**Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives**

**Course Content Learning Objectives**

LO1 Prepare and practice for weekly lessons;

LO2 Efficiently practice two to three hours a day on cello lesson assignments only;

LO3 Perform at a high level in lessons, studio classes, required performances and juries with correct notes, rhythms, and articulations;

LO4 Demonstrate pitch sensitivity and the ability to play in tune when performing alone and with piano;

LO5 Demonstrate appropriate stage presence and etiquette when performing in public;

LO6 Demonstrate musicianship by playing with phrasing and stylistic characteristics appropriate to historical context or other compositional style;

LO7 Demonstrate constantly improving instrumental mechanics as outlined above;

LO8 Demonstrate constantly improving sight-reading skills;

LO9 Develop and demonstrate the ability to self-critique all areas of instrumental proficiency and musicianship;

LO10 Develop and demonstrate a warm-up and practice routine and good practice techniques;

LO11 Perform at a high level in solo Junior and Senior recitals.

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Music:**

Students are expected to obtain the necessary music and to bring it to each lesson. Janos Starker’s OMSP: *Organized Method of String Playing* is essential reading and will be provided by the teacher. In addition, based on individual need, standard materials may include studies by Sevcik, Popper, Dotzauer, Piatti and other music, etudes, studies and orchestral excerpts from the cello repertoire.

**Other equipment / material requirements (optional):**

It is highly recommended that students record or video tape their lessons, however, these are for individual use only, and cannot be posted on any websites.
Classroom Protocol

Preparation and practice:
The student is expected to attend all lessons and prepare carefully the assignments that will include some combination of technical exercises, etudes, solos, excerpts, sight-reading, and listening assignment. Students should use practice time wisely in order to accomplish the weekly or semester objectives and, thus, should treat this course just like any other in which you give daily attention. Cramming as a form of practice is not effective when developing both physical and cognitive skills. Thus regular, daily and methodical work is expected as outlined above. The amount of practice time is different for every student.

Minimum required practice time:

- 3 hours daily for B.M
- 2 hours daily for B.A.
- 1 hour daily for minor
- 4 hours daily for M.A.

Required concert attendance:
The current concert attendance requirement indicates that SJSU students must attend a minimum of 12 concerts during the semester, not counting those you are playing in. You are strongly encouraged to enroll in Music 81 (lower division) or 181 (upper division) to complete this requirement by attending all Thursday Listening Hour concerts plus Tuesday student concerts. You must acquire a punch card at the first class meeting. You will turn in this completed card at your jury. Failure to complete this requirement will result in a lower applied lesson grade or lowered grade for Music 81/181. Permission to attend off-campus concerts (such as Opera San Jose or other professional or student concerts) must come from your applied instructor who will supply a signature on your card. Consult SJSU Music Student Handbook for specific policies (6.1). (policy listed below)

It is expected that you will attend the recitals of your fellow cello students and of your teacher and of any sponsored guest artist.

Performance requirements:
Solo performance experience is essential to the development of the music major. Each major is required to regularly perform each year the following venues. The following requirements are taken from the Music Student Handbook:

A. Studio Recital – a recital of students from an applied instructor’s studio for the purpose of performing for one another. Not open to the public.
B. Public Recital – Appearance on the Tuesday-Thursday Recital Hours, or other recitals open to the public.
C. Minimum Performance Requirements
The following represents the minimum requirement:
Freshmen: BA – one studio recital required
BM – one studio and one public performance required

Sophomore: BA – two studio recitals required
BM – two public performances required

Junior: BA – one studio and one public performance required
BM – one public recital and one full Junior Recital required

Senior: BA – one public performance and one-half Senior Recital
BM – one public performance and one full Senior Recital

Graduate: MA – Recitals as scheduled, competitions, multiple public and studio performances.

No major may graduate without meeting these requirements. Performance dates and types must be verified on each semester’s jury form.

**Jury Examinations:**

At the end of each semester of applied study, all music majors will be evaluated by a faculty committee to determine whether each student has met the requirements for the registered level. All students enrolled in applied study must take a jury as their final exam for that course. If, in the opinion of the faculty committee, the student has not met these requirements, the student will be placed on probation (see Probation below). After probation has been removed, the student will be required to register for the same level of study the following semester. If a student fails two juries, the student can be dropped from the music major. The student may reapply for admission to the program at a later time. Generally, a student must receive an overall grade of C to pass on to the next level of applied study.

Jury exams are normally held during the final exam week. Jury times will be assigned by the area coordinator. All solos with an accompaniment must be performed with an accompanist. Consult with Professor Brook or Lington about jury accompaniment.

**Junior Qualifying Jury:**

Normally, at the end of the fourth semester of applied study, students are evaluated during the jury exam for placement in Upper Division study (majors). This jury exam is more extensive; therefore, students should consult their applied instructor for specific requirements. At the junior qualifying jury, the student should present a typed repertoire sheet which includes all methods/techniques books, all studied solo repertoire and a list of all repertoire performed publicly. If a student selects a composition with piano accompaniment for his jury, s/he is required to perform with accompaniment. Students taking a junior qualifying jury must sign up for two consecutive jury time slots. General requirements for the following areas include (see area coordinator for specific repertory requirements):

1. Three stylistically contrasting compositions (etudes, solos), one of which must have keyboard accompaniment.
2. All major scales, melodic minor scales, harmonic scales, major arpeggios, and minor arpeggios performed from memory at the appropriate speed.

3. Demonstration of proficiency in various articulations at various speeds.

4. Sight reading

**Probation:**
Students who fall below performance level expectations at their semester juries which results in a jury grade below C will be placed on Probation standing. While on probation, a student will not be permitted to enroll in applied music lessons and must privately remediate deficiencies at their own expense. At the end of the probation semester, the student must sign up for a jury and successfully pass all deficient material. If two consecutive juries are not passed the student will be removed as a music major. Students on probation are encouraged to sign into all other music major courses while remediating required deficiencies.

**Attendance Policy:**
Students taking applied music lessons are expected to attend each scheduled lesson. If it is necessary to miss a lesson because of illness or another valid reason, the instructor should be notified in advance personally with a call to his office phone or text. The teacher may make up lessons if the student gives 24 hour notice with good reason, such as illness or a death in the family. Instructors are not obliged to make up lessons that fall on school holidays, school trips or due to late registration. Excessive absences will affect semester grade.

**Tardiness:**
It is important for you to be on time in deference to your classmates and to the instructor.

**Dropping and Adding**
Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html. Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

**Assignments and Grading Policy**
**Assessment and Evaluation:**
Grading will be based on lesson preparation as tied in with your weekly assignments and learning objectives, performance in studio classes and recitals, outside listening, and your
jury performance. You must be on time, complete or exceed the assignments given and make constant and steady progress in all areas on which you are concentrating.

**Jury Times and Tasks:**

Juries are held TBA during finals week. When your day is assigned, you must work around your final exam schedule to fit in a jury time. Jury day will be established by the 4th week of school. When the sign-up sheet is posted, you will sign-up for your own specific time. Accompaniment is required. See Sharon Brook or Victoria Lington.

1. Bring completed repertoire card.
2. Bring music use fee card.
3. Bring concert attendance punch card.
4. Fill out 4-5 jury examination sheets (be early to do this or do ahead of time).
5. Bring semester performance documentation.
6. Perform beautifully!

**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Students should know that the University’s [Academic Integrity Policy is available at](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf).

Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.