USC THORNTON SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
Division of Classical Performance and Composition

Strings Studies Instruction for Non-Majors

For any questions regarding elective strings instruction, please contact:  
Dr. Lina Bahn, Assistant Professor of Violin and Chamber Music  
Lbahn@usc.edu

For assistance with registration, please contact:  
Grace Lee, Secondary Applied Assistant  
keyboard@usc.edu

For any questions regarding harp instruction, please contact:  
JoAnn Turovsky, Professor of Harp  
turovsky@usc.edu

PRIVATE STRINGS INSTRUCTION ELECTIVE COURSES

MPST 300 Elective Lessons for Undergraduate Students  
MPST 301 Lessons for Music Minors  
MPST 501 Elective Lessons for Graduate Students

Beginning or continuing your musical studies can be one of the most rewarding and life-serving experiences you will have at USC. Any student at USC may enroll at the Thornton School of Music for weekly one-on-one private lessons on violin, viola, cello, or double bass.

MPST 300 and 501 is primarily designed to help students with some prior music study continue to improve with their instrument in private lessons, but beginning strings students may also register for private lessons.

MPST 301 is designed for students who have already studied their instrument and are at an intermediate to advanced level, and who would like to achieve a minor in strings performance.

Dr. Bahn will assign each student with an instructor as soon as they have registered and their registration is viewable on GRS.

Click here for the Syllabus for more information.

Check website for correct section numbers: http://classes.usc.edu/
Repertoire at Dohenyi Music Library, on reserve:

- The Suzuki Method
- Duets for Violins: Second Violin Parts to Selections from Suzuki Violin School Volumes 1, 2 and 3, Volumes 1-3
- All for Strings, but Frost and Anderson (Method books 1 and 2), for violin, viola and cello
- Barber, Barbara - Scales For Young Violinists - Alfred
- Online (free or to buy) http://imslp.org is the free database of downloadable music that is in the public domain

**MPST-301 Music Minor Audition Requirements for Violin, Viola, or Cello**

Designed for students who have had extensive previous playing experience, who are interested in a minor in music performance. Approval of applicants to this program must pass the audition requirements below:

**Music Minor Audition Requirements:**
10 minute audition held during the first week the Fall semester, or during the Finals of each semester, in front of the Coordinator and one or more Thornton String Faculty. No pianist/accompanist is needed. It is preferable that your selections be memorized, unless it is a sonata or a contemporary work.

- Two contrasting selections: (e.g. a movement from a concerto and a movement of a Bach solo Suite/Partita/Sonata)
- Prepare one scale in three octaves with major and minor three-octave arpeggios.

Please be sure to fill out the *Intent to register form*, and contact Grace Lee at keyboard@usc.edu to schedule an audition. You must pass your audition before being able to register for lessons.

**MPST-301 Elective viola for violin majors:**
*You must have an instrument rented, borrowed, or owned before the first week of class in order to register.*

**Viola jury to test out of the BM Violin Performance degree program:**
15 minute jury with Non Major Coordinator and at least one Faculty of Viola

**Requirements:**
1. Two scales: one major, one minor, 3-octave, fast tempo
2. Two contrasting movements of a solo Bach cello suite
3. Concerto selection (from but not exclusive to this list):
   - First movement with cadenza of the Stamitz D Major,
First movement Hoffmeister D Major,
First movement Rolla E-flat Major
First movement Vanhal C Major
First or second movement of Walton
First or second and third movements of Bartok
Any movement of Hindemith Der Schwanendreher
A substantial fast movement of any 20th or 21st-century concerto:
  - Dittersdorf Concerto F Major
  - Penderecki Viola Concerto
  - Piston Viola Concerto
  - Harbison Concerto
  - Adler Viola Concerto

4. A movement for viola and piano (from but not exclusive to this list):
   - Bax, Sonata
   - Bloch, Suite (1919)
   - Brahms, Sonatas, Op. 120, No. 1 or No. 2
   - Bruch Romance
   - Clarke, Sonata
   - Franck, Sonata
   - Hindemith, Sonata, Op. 11, No. 4
   - Rochberg, Sonata
   - Schubert, Arpeggione
   - Schumann, Märchenbilder
   - Shostakovich, Sonata
   - Shulman, Theme and Variations
   - Vieuxtemps, Sonata, Op. 36
   - Carter- Elegy for Viola and Piano

5. Ability to answer these questions:
   - Name three major figures in viola history and write about their influences.
   - What are some of the main differences to consider between violin and viola performance techniques?
   - Discuss the Bach cello suites in regards to their contrast to the violin Partitas/Sonatas
   - If you would like to perform a selection not on this list, please inform the Non-Major Program Coordinator for consideration.

**MPST-501 Elective lessons for graduate students**
This course is for any graduate student enrolled at USC. This may include music students at Thornton, who are already enrolled in a major degree on another string instrument. For DMA students who are interested in a string instrument as an Elective Field must be admitted into the studio of a major Faculty member. For any questions, please contact Dr. Bahn at lbahn@usc.edu
Placement within the USC Thornton Symphony or within in the Thornton chamber music program is possible upon approval by audition by a faculty panel. Please contact Dr. Bahn at lbahn@usc.edu for more information.