

Shannon Reilly
Syllabus for: violin lessons, University at Buffalo
slsteige@buffalo.edu, shannonreilly@gmail.com
(203) 912-5424

You are bound to the details I have outlined here and are responsible for reading them. If you do not read this syllabus, and make a mistake later in the semester, that is your own responsibility. Policies are subject to change; I will notify you immediately of any changes.

Purpose: the student becomes a more technically and musically advanced musician while also learning the history behind the violin and its repertoire. The student will learn new pieces, improve technique through practicing, perform for their peers, and observe musical performances. The student's private violin study will also develop broad professional skills, including but not limited to managing one's schedule, learning new skills from a superior, sending and responding to emails in a professional manner, being on time, and studying in both one on one lessons with the professor and group classes.

Important dates

Sunday February 21, 7:30 pm - I am performing a live-streamed solo recital. Attendance is mandatory!

Juries, sometime in May - this course's final exam, 15% of your grade. We will prepare you to make a recording of two pieces of music/exercises which you will submit for your jury.

A) You are allotted 14 lessons for the semester.

1. Majors: 1 hr/week; minors, non-majors: 30 min
2. We schedule lessons by email at mutually available times. Lesson dates/times vary and are individually scheduled. I will make my best effort to reschedule lessons with advance notice.
3. **Online vs in person:** you may choose either, and switch at any time without advance notice. If you have been around anyone at all who you suspect to be ill, *stay home and have an online lesson!* For safe in-person socially-distanced lessons, I will ask you to *wash your hands immediately beforehand*. I also maintain 30 min breaks between lessons, for air safety, and clean all common surfaces between lessons.
4. Preparation: you are allowed one lesson for which you are irreparably unprepared without your grade being affected. You must notify me by 5 pm the previous business day.
5. If you are sick, **stay home**. If you appear to be ill at your lesson, I will send you home.
6. I am not required to make up time you miss by being late, or make up no-shows. Every no-show lowers your final grade by 10%.
7. Minors and non-majors can take 7 1-hour lessons, biweekly; past students have found this method superior! You may switch between 30 min / 1 hour at any time, as long as you discuss it with me in advance.

B) We will have two online group studio classes, over Zoom.

1. Students will send me recordings of themselves which we will listen to and comment on.
2. Attendance is required. We will schedule times that work for all of us over email.
3. Everyone must share a performance(s) and comment on each other's.
4. Absences must be requested in advance; missing class without permission: see A6

5. Written make-up assignments may replace studio if you cannot attend, as I see fit. 1-2 pages, double-spaced, sources cited; prompt is specific to each student.

C) You will be required to attend concerts this semester.

1. Any type of concert that was performed live, including livestreams and literally any genre of music at all, counts for this requirement, as long as you can reasonably prove that you listened to it.

2. Majors must attend 6 concerts, minors 5, and non-majors 4. Double-credit concerts will occasionally be announced.

3. Everyone is required to attend / watch the livestream of my recital on Feb 21 at 7:30 pm. This is *in addition to* your concert attendance credit. If you cannot attend this recital, you must notify me at least 1 week in advance and provide reasonable proof. Give me the opportunity to prove to you that I am a good violinist and worthy musical mentor!

4. Missed required concerts: see B5.

University policies: please review the University's policies on health / masks, academic integrity, mental health, sexual violence, etc. These statements apply in my studio just as they do throughout the University. I will not tolerate any form of discrimination or bullying in my studio and we must work together to stay healthy and safe. All my students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner and follow the University's guidelines.