

---

# The University of North Carolina at Wilmington

---



---

## Department of Music

---

### Applied Lesson Syllabus • Fall 2011

Robert Nathanson  
[nathansonr@uncw.edu](mailto:nathansonr@uncw.edu)  
910-962-3445

CA 1016

Music Office: 910.962.3390

---

### The UNCW Applied Studios

---

**Philosophy** The primary goal of UNCW applied music lessons is the study of fundamentals to develop skills, musicianship, and pedagogical concepts necessary for establishing a strong foundation in understanding and mastering the techniques and musicianship skills used in performance. This goal is achieved through the study and performance of various materials, based on the student's curriculum, as outlined in the Applied Repertoire list for each instrument, with a strong focus on technique, articulation, tone, rhythm, interpretation, etc.

---

### Lessons

---

**General Objectives**

The course objectives for applied lessons are:

- To study and perform a variety of music literature (e.g., style, genre, time period, solo as well as chamber music) indigenous to current performance practices.
- To develop the necessary skills through various technical, tonal, intonation, and articulation studies.
- To develop an awareness of musical interpretation through the development of tools for manipulating music and through music analysis.
- To be able to discuss the historical significance of the music, the composer, and the instrument/voice within the realm of each piece studied.

**Courses**

- **MUS 195/395** (1 credit) is a half-hour lesson per week, requiring one or more hours of daily preparation and practice. Most students taking this course are non-majors and music minors.
- **MUS 196/396** (2 credits) is an hour lesson per week, requiring two or more hours of daily preparation and practice. Students taking this course are music majors.
- **MUS 197/397** (3 credits) is an hour lesson per week, requiring at least three hours of daily preparation and practice. Most students taking this course are music performance majors.

**Attendance Policy**

- **Attendance is mandatory for all lessons, seminars and the monthly departmental seminar.** If you need to miss a lesson, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor in writing (faculty mailbox or email), preferably at least 24 hours in advance of the lesson.
- Make-up lessons are not an option unless you have an extenuating situation (e.g., medical excuse, school-sponsored trip, etc.) that would prevent you from attending your regularly scheduled lesson time.

**Requirements**

Weekly lessons:

- All lessons should be considered a performance and should be prepared accordingly.
- Students should schedule enough time prior to the lesson to sufficiently warm-up in order to perform the lesson assignment at the highest level of musicianship and performance skill appropriate to the student's level of development.
- All lessons should be prepared thoroughly by focusing upon the following musical aspects: interpretation, tone, rhythm, intonation, articulation, and correct notes.
- Students are expected, to practice daily. The following is a list of the suggested amount of the minimum daily practice time for music majors/minors.
  - 195/395: one (1) or more hours daily
  - 196/396: two (2) or more hours daily
  - 197/397: three (3) or more hours daily

Practice time should be dedicated to developing skills and involve all aspects of performance elements, as listed above. In addition, this goal should be achieved with focused daily practice on materials assigned and discussed in lessons, such as, tone studies, scales, etudes, and repertoire. Ensemble practice should not be considered part of one's daily practice time.

**Seminars: Tuesday, 3:30, CAB; Departmental in BRH on last Tuesday of each month**

In addition to the weekly applied lesson, each student is required to attend a weekly seminar. The seminars provide students with a variety of activities, including regular opportunities for students to perform in solo, duet, and chamber music formats; an opportunity for a healthy exchange of ideas on various topics, including performance critiques; discussion of topics presented by the instructor; performances, clinics, and master classes by the instructor, as well as guest artists; reviews of new music, recordings, and equipment, among other topics. Seminar requirements include the following:

- Attendance is mandatory for all majors and minors.
- It is strongly recommended that majors perform at least twice and minors at least once during applied or Departmental seminar.

Concert attendance:

- Music majors need to attend **8 concerts** during the course of a semester. Six concerts attended should be other than those in which your major instrument is included. In addition, of the six concerts attended beyond the two performed, majors are required to attend at least one orchestral, one vocal and/or choral, one jazz, and one instrumental concert.

## Materials

- See the *Repertoire Requirements for Applied Levels* on-line for required solos and etude materials for the year as well as for suggested materials needed throughout the undergraduate course study at UNCW.

## Grading

Your semester grade is 75% lesson average and 25% jury grade (Conscientious preparation of jury music carries more importance than the actual performance). Your semester grade in applied music may also be negatively affected by deficiencies in seminar attendance and participation, and/or in concert attendance requirements.

### Jury grades

Weekly lesson grades, as well as the final jury grade, will be based upon the student's ability to successfully achieve the specific goals (see listing for your instrument on your instructor's web site) each semester.

*Students are required to perform an Upper Division Jury at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study as a major (please see the Student Handbook for further information). The jury will consist of solo and etude materials as well as scale requirements (see Repertoire Lists & Levels) totaling 20 minutes of music. Repertoire and scales, as performed according to Repertoire Level guidelines, must be successfully passed in order to enroll in Upper Level applied lessons.*

**THE UNCW STUDENT ACADEMIC HONOR CODE:** The University of North Carolina Wilmington is a community of high academic standards where academic integrity is valued. UNCW students are committed to honesty and truthfulness in academic inquiry and in the pursuit of knowledge. This commitment begins when new students matriculate at UNCW, continues as they create work of the highest quality while part of the university community, and endures as a core value throughout their lives.

