Course Description: **MUS 379. High Strings.** Credit 1 hour. Study of basic techniques in the pedagogy of the violin and viola.

This course is designed for music education majors to enable them to teach high string instruments at the beginning level, and to conduct public school violinists and violists in orchestral settings.

**General Statement of the Conceptual Framework:** The COEHD’s Conceptual Framework provides direction for the development of effective professionals. It is a living document that continuously evolves as opportunities and challenges emerge. The four components of the CF are the institutional standards used for candidate assessment in undergraduate and graduate programs. They are Knowledge of Learner (KL), Strategies and Methods (SM), Content Knowledge (CK), and Professional Standards (PS). Diversity (D) and Technology (T) are included in the assessment process as themes that are integrated throughout all programs in the educational unit.

**Objectives:** When finished with this course, students should:

1. Have a working knowledge of how to play and teach violin and viola as applicable to current school literature (hand position, fingerings, style, technique, bowings) (CK)
2. Be familiar with sound pedagogical approaches to teaching the violin and viola (SM)
3. Be familiar with method books, solo and ensemble literature and contemporary teaching materials (CK, SM, PS)
4. Be familiar with non-pedagogical and performance issues (informational resources, purchasing, maintaining and repairing instruments) (KL)

**Materials:** Will be provided

**Grading system:** Grades will be based on attendance and improvement in the areas listed above.

1. **Performance & Teaching Skills:** You will be playing weekly assignments in class and performance exams on both instruments. Plan on practicing 20-30 minutes daily in order to demonstrate improvement in your skills (technique, tone, style). By the end of the semester, students will be required to play basic scales and short solo selections on each instrument. Interactive teaching activities with your peers will also weigh on your grade assessment.

2. **Written Examinations:** Exams covering classroom discussions and reading materials will be given after the study of violin and viola. Students will be tested on their knowledge of elementary performance and pedagogical issues relevant to the high strings.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to comply with the university's attendance policy as stated in the Southeastern Louisiana University Catalog.

**Other:** Students are responsible for dropping the course. Students with disabilities must identify themselves with the SLU ADA officer.