Music 380: Low String Methods

Syllabus

**Purpose**
We will focus on learning how to play and teach the bass and cello to beginners. There will be a strong focus on reading the bass clef and learning the proper hand positions for each instrument. The bass is used extensively in jazz so some of the techniques and tunes from jazz idiom will be covered. Primarily we will focus on how to encourage and get new string players winning and continuing with these instruments.

You will be expected to have a basic playing knowledge of the cello and bass, be able to tune and there will be some mention of repairs and maintenance particular to these instruments.

**Required Texts**

**Grading**
Seven in-class practical performances 50%
Quiz (1) 10%
Research assignment 10%
Final 30%

In-class practical performances; These will cover basic techniques on the cello and bass and occur in class. The materials will be presented the week before each demonstration and a grade will be given after each performance.
Grades will be distributed as follows:
A-perfect performance; excellent rhythm, intonation and application of specific technique
B-overall performance very good, fine applications of specific technique, Good signs of progress and evidence of practicing
C-Rhythm and intonation acceptable, demonstration of specific technique, room for improvement
D-Evidence of little practicing or progress. Performance sub-par
F-Failure to perform or complete an exercise, lots of mistakes, no sign of technique, progress of practicing.

Attendance: 3% removed from overall percentage for each unexcused absence.