



“Gh. Dima” Music Academy – Cluj-Napoca
Faculty of Musical Performance
String and Wind Instruments Department

VALERIU MAIOR

INSTRUMENT – VIOLIN

SYLLABUS

FOR

the first cycle of studies

EVALUATION METHODS

Students will be evaluated every semester through exams and practical assessments.

1st Year

1st Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Scales and exercises practice methods	3	Correction and correct development of violin specific technical skills
II Familiarization with baroque repertoire	3	Score reading and recognizing/listening to relevant performances of J.S.Bach's works
III Romanticism in violin literature	3	Reading and practicing virtuosity elements from the chosen romantic concerto
IV The etude, a reference point in assimilating the selected repertoire	3	Thorough assimilation of technical and interpretative elements from the selected works
V Focusing and self-control in public presentations of the prepared works	2	Psychological training in preparation for a public performance

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and technical exercises

C. Flesch: Scales and Etudes

Sevcik: Exercises for the Right Hand

2. Works in baroque style

J.S.Bach: Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin

Handel: Sonatas for violin and piano

Veracini: Sonatas for violin and piano

3. Romantic works

Bruch: Violin Concerto

Wieniawski: Violin Concerto no. 1 and 2

Lalo: Spanish Symphony

Vieuxtemps: Violin Concerto no. 4

Lesson 1

Evaluating the student's technical and interpretative capabilities. Steps towards correcting possible wrong technical habits.

Lesson 2

Practice tools and methods for scales in thirds, sixths, octaves and tenths. Etudes for the flexibility of the right hand.

Lesson 3

A parallel between pieces from German, Italian and French baroque. Specific forms and genres.

Lesson 4

Romanticism in violin literature. Analysis of the violin concerto and its characteristics. Specific technical means.

Lesson 5

Specific technical-instrumental tools in practicing Bach's Partitas for solo violin. Technique: how to approach chords on three and four strings.

Lesson 6

The romantic concerto, an analysis of form and writing, importance of articulation and intonation in virtuoso passages.

Lesson 7

Aspects of polyphonic writing in baroque, analysis and memorizing techniques. Comparative study of dynamic and timbre differentiation.

Lesson 8

Reference points in romantic literature mirrored in violin repertoire. Appropriate tools in assimilating romantic repertoire.

Lesson 9

Poetry and instrumental technique in the romantic violin concerto. Interpretative reference points.

Lesson 10

Returning, on a higher level of technical and musical understanding, to the works in baroque style. Ornamentation and micro-dynamic technique.

Lesson 11

Virtuosity and musical expression in romantic repertoire for the violin. The focus will be on the romantic works selected for the exam, insisting upon the harmony between technique and the expressive universe of the works.

Lesson 12, 13, 14

Musical and psychological training in preparation for the public performance of prepared repertoire. Thinking and self-control techniques. Scheduling the exam pieces in class and department recitals.

Evaluation Method: Exam

Obligatory Repertoire:

- Two movements from a Partita for solo violin by J.S.Bach
- One movement from a romantic concerto

2nd Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Technical etudes, consolidating correctly developed skills	3	Correcting wrong playing habits
II Reading and analyzing the works to be practiced over the course of the 2 nd semester	3	A correct approach to study materials
III Thorough practice, a primordial objective in musical performance	5	A thorough mastery of the practiced works
IV Psychological training in preparation for performing the pieces in concert conditions	3	Performing the practiced pieces in department and class recitals

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and preliminary technical exercises:

C. Flesch: Scales in thirds, sixths, octaves and tenths

Sevcik: Etudes and Exercises

Paganini: Caprice no. 16

Gaviniés: Etudes

Orchestral Excerpts

2. Baroque works:

J.S.Bach: Partitas for solo violin

3. Romantic works:

2nd and 3rd movement from the concerto studied in the first semester

4. Virtuosity pieces:

Tartini-Kreisler: Theme and Variations

Sarasate: *Romanza Andaluza, Zapateado, Habanera*

Veracini: Sonata

Paganini *Mosè-fantasia*

Ceaikovski: *Scherzo*

5. Obligatory etude:

Paganini: Caprice no. 16

Lesson 1

Review of scales and technical etudes. Consolidating technical skills established in the 1st semester.

Lesson 2

Quality of sound and vibrato in Bach's Partita. Comparative analyses.

Lesson 3

Dynamic and articulation in Paganini's Caprices. Practice methods for string skipping.

Lesson 4

Paganini's innovations in violin technique. Practice methods for their correct assimilation.

Lesson 5

Practicing vibrato and bowing changes in the slow concerto movements. Quality and expressive dynamics in performance.

Lesson 6

Virtuosity elements in the exam pieces. Reading and working methods for solving the difficult passages in these pieces.

Lesson 7

Agility and ease in practicing the 3rd movement of the selected concerto. Comparative analyses.

Lesson 8

Analysis of the chosen study material from a historical and aesthetical perspective.

Lesson 9

A thorough practice of the exam pieces. Correcting possible technical issues and interpretative difficulties.

Lesson 10

Playing through the whole exam repertoire with the piano accompanist.

Lesson 11

Stylistic differences in performing baroque and romantic works.

Lesson 12, 13, 14

Musical and psychological training in preparation for the public performance of prepared repertoire. Thinking, focusing and self-control techniques. Scheduling the exam pieces in class and department recitals followed by critical discussions.

Evaluation Method: Exam

Obligatory Repertoire:

- Two movements from a Partita for solo violin by J.S.Bach
- Paganini: Caprice no. 16
- Virtuosity Piece
- 2nd and 3rd movement from the studied concerto

2nd Year
1st Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Etudes and technical exercises, fundamentals for musical performance	3	Achieving superior interpretative parameters
II Reading, digitation and bowing in the works proposed for study	3	A correct and professional performance of the selected repertoire
III Thorough practice, resolving technical and interpretative issues – accompaniment lesson	5	A superior performance level
IV Focusing techniques and psychological training in preparation for the exam	3	A thorough, solid preparation for performing in the end of semester exam

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and technical exercises:

C. Flesch: Scales
 Gavinies: Etudes
 Wieniawski: Etudes
 Orchestral Excerpts

2. Works in baroque style:

J.S.Bach: Fugue in g-min
 Tartini: Sonata “Devil’s Trill”

3. Romantic works:

Sains-Saens: Concerto for violin 1st mvmt.
 Haciaturian: Concerto 1st mvmt.
 Prokofiev: Concerto no.1 or 2 1st mvmt.
 Mozart: Concerto no. 3,4,5,7 1st mvmt.
 Vieuxtemps: Concerto no. 5 1st mvmt.

4. Works by Romanian composers:

S. Toduță: Sonatina
 P. Constantinescu: Sonatina
 G. Enescu: Sonata a II-a

Lesson 1

A general overview of the evolution of violin literature. Selecting repertoire.

Lesson 2

Technical etudes in preparation for the difficult passages in the selected repertoire.

Lesson 3

Comparative analysis of the works to be practiced, fixing technical and interpretative points of reference

Lesson 4

Analysis and practice of Bach's Fugue

Lesson 5

Practicing the difficult passages in the chosen violin concerto.

Lesson 6

Reference points in Enescu's creation, its influence on conational composers' works.

Lesson 7

The etude, a defining genre in romantic violin music.

Lesson 8

Technical tools specific to the 20th century music.

Lesson 9

Mozartian style in violin performance. Specific technical-interpretative tools.

Lesson 10

Evaluating the training level acquired over the course of the semester, unsolved issues.

Lesson 11, 12, 13, 14

Accompaniment lessons, polishing the musical performance, class and department recitals.

Evaluation Method: Exam**Obligatory Repertoire:**

- Orchestral excerpts
- Bach : Fugue in g-min
- One movement from a classical violin concerto
- One piece by a Romanian composer

2nd Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Sonata for solo violin by Bach	3	Developing the correct right hand technique involved in playing chords on 3 and 4 strings

II A new sound aesthetic – Paganini and the revolutionizing of violin technique	3	Solving the technical issues arising from the performance of the caprices
III The poetics of performing works from the Mozartian repertoire	4	A deep knowledge of Mozartian technique
IV Focusing and self-control in public presentations of the prepared works	4	A successful public performance

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and technical exercises

Flesch: Scales

Gaviniès: Etudes

Mazas: Etudes

2. Classical works

Sonatas for solo violin by Bach

Sonatas for violin and piano by Mozart

3. Violin concertos

2nd and 3rd movement from the concerto studied in the first semester

4. Virtuosity pieces:

Wieniawski: Scherzo-Tarantella

Kreisler: Introduction and Scherzo

Sains-Saens: Havaneza

Paganini: Witches' Dance

Brahms: Scherzo etc...

Paganini: Caprice no. 13 (obligatory)

Lesson 1

Selecting and sight-reading the repertoire for the 2nd semester.

Lesson 2

Baroque stylistic reference points and their implementation in the chosen work.

Lesson 3

Technique and performance in the romantic violin concerto.

Lesson 4

Aspects of polyphonic writing in romanticism. Analyzing and memorizing techniques.

Lesson 5

Technical and interpretative issues in Paganini's works.

Lesson 6

Practicing methods of the virtuoso piece.

Lesson 7

Comparative analysis of the practiced works.

Lesson 8

Enescu – performer. Analyses and artistic reference points.

Lesson 9

Assimilating and correcting performance issues discovered in the selected works.

Lesson 10

Technical means of achieving the appropriate sonorities for performing the violin repertoire.

Lesson 11, 12, 13, 14

Polishing the repertoire, rehearsals with the pianist and focusing tools that will guarantee a successful performance of the works in public and in exams.

Evaluation Method: Exam**Obligatory Repertoire:**

- One movement for a solo sonata by Bach
- 2nd and 3rd movement from the concerto studied during the 1st semester
- Paganini: Caprice no. 13
- One virtuoso piece
- Etudes (to be selected at random)

3rd Year
1st Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Exercises and technical etudes. Scales	3	Consolidating technical skills
II Sonorities and techniques specific to 20 th century music	3	Recognizing and familiarizing oneself with 20 th century music
III Romantic sonatas: violin and piano, specific performance tools	4	Techniques and interpretations of romantic and postromantic sonatas
IV Techniques for a successful memorization and public presentation of prepared works	4	Performing and focusing on stage and in exams

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and daily exercises

Flesch: Scales

Wieniawski: Concert Etudes

Mazas: Concert Etudes

Paganini: Caprices

Orchestral Excerpts

2. Violin Concertos

Beethoven: Violin Concerto

Prokofiev: Violin Concertos no.1 and 2

Paganini: Violin Concertos no.1, 2

Ceaikovski: Violin Concerto

Glazunov: Violin Concerto

3. Bach: Fugue in a-min

4. One work by a Romanian composer

Enescu: Violin Sonatas no.2 and 3, "Impresii din copilarie" (= Childhood Impressions)

T. Olah: Sonatina

S. Toduță: Sonatas no.1 and 2, Sonatina

Lesson 1

Etudes and scales, selecting the repertoire.

Lesson 2

Analyzing Bach's sonatas for solo violin!

Lesson 3

Romantic concerto performing tools.

Lesson 4

Performing the folkloric elements in Enescu's music.

Lesson 5

Expression and technique in the performance of romantic concertos.

Lesson 6

Special sonorities in modern violin concertos.

Lesson 7

Correctly attacking 3 and 4 note chords in Bach's sonatas for solo violin.

Lesson 8

Aspects of polyphonic writing in romanticism. Analyzing and memorizing methods.

Lesson 9

Reviewing the etudes (random selection) worked in the first semester.

Lesson 10

Dynamic and musical expression in romantic violin concertos.

Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14

Accompaniment lessons, memorizing and consolidating the prepared repertoire for class and department recitals.

Evaluation Method: Exam

Obligatory Repertoire:

- Orchestral Excerpts
- Bach: Fugue in a-min
- One violin concerto, 1st mvmt.
- One work by a Romanian composer

2nd Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Technical exercises, sight-reading the selected material	3	Becoming accustomed to new movements/trends in the repertoire for violin.
II Polyphony in Bach's sonatas for solo violin. An analysis of the Fugues to be practiced	3	Assimilating technical-interpretative knowledge on the performance of Bach sonatas
III Characteristics and means of musical expression in modern concertos	4	Learning and developing skills specific to performing modern concertos and pieces
IV Thinking and focusing techniques in reparation for public performances	4	Control and composing oneself on stage

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and technical exercises

Orchestral Excerpts
Flesch: Scales
Paganini: Caprices

2. Concertos

2nd and 3rd movement from the concerto studied in the 1st semester

3. One slow movement from a sonata for solo violin by Bach

4. Paganini: Caprice no. 20 (obligatory)

5. Virtuosity pieces

Ysaye: Sonatas for solo violin
Ravel: Tzigane
Sains-Saens: Rondo Capriccioso
Paganini: I Palpiti
Sarasate: Hota Navarra
Bazzini: Dance of the Goblins

Lesson 1

Reading and selecting repertoire

Lesson 2

Expression in slow movements by Bach.

Lesson 3

Technical and expression means in Ysaye sonatas for solo violin.

Lesson 4

Practice methods for difficult virtuosity passages.

Lesson 5

Paganini, technique and expressivity.

Lesson 6

Means of musical expression in romantic violin concertos.

Lesson 7

The impressionist movement in violin literature – writing characteristics.

Lesson 8

Issues concerning technical difficulties in selected works.

Lesson 9

Comparative analysis of practiced concertos and pieces.

Lesson 10

Efficient violin practice, a key element in technical and interpretative progress.

Lessons 11,12,13,14

Accompaniment lessons and memorization in preparation for exams and recitals.

Evaluation Method: Exam

Obligatory Repertoire:

- Etudes and scales (chosen at random)
- Bach: one slow movement from a sonata for solo violin
- 2nd and 3rd movement from the concerto studied in the 1st semester
- Paganini: Caprice no. 20
- One virtuosity piece

4th Year
1st Semester

LEARNING UNITS	LESSONS	OBJECTIVES/SKILLS
I Bach Chaconne – key element in violin literature	3	Completing knowledge and performance techniques of Bach’s works
II Large scale violin concertos: Brahms, Ceaikovski, Sostakovici, Beethoven	3	Tackling concertos of great difficulty
III G.Enescu’s sonatas in the musical context of the 20 th century	3	Knowledge of the performing style specific to Enescu’s works
IV A review of practice methods developed over the previous years for different musical styles	5	Thorough assimilation of knowledge acquired previous during study years

REPERTOIRE:

1. Etudes and exercises

Flesch: Scales

Paganini: Caprices

Orchestral Excerpts

2. Bach: Chaconne (obligatory)

3. Violin concerto

Beethoven

Brahms

Sibelius

Glazunov

4. Works by Romanian composers

Enescu: Sonatele no. 2 and 3, “Impresii din copilarie” (=Childhood Impressions)

S. Toduță: Sonatele no. 1 and 2

A. Mendelssohn : Solosonata

Lesson 1

Selecting repertoire for the semester,

Lesson 2

Deciphering the selected scores.

Lesson 3

Bach's Chaconne, a culmination of violin literature.

Lesson 4

The great romantic violin concertos (from selected repertoire).

Lesson 5

Comparative analysis of works from the exam repertoire.

Lesson 6

Efficient study – the means to achieving violin mastery.

Lesson 7

Group practice of orchestral passages.

Lesson 8

3rd Sonata – an Enescian masterpiece.

Lesson 9

Technical and interpretative issues in the exam repertoire.

Lesson 10

A general view of the works performed during study years.

Lessons 11,12,13,14

Thorough assimilation, memorization and recitals with the exam repertoire.

Evaluation Method: Exam

Obligatory Repertoire:

- Orchestral excerpts
- Bach: Chaconne
- One representative violin concerto (1st mvmt.)
- One work by a Romanian composer

2nd Semester

Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4

Selecting and reviewing the practical requirements for the Bachelor's exam.

Lessons 5, 6, 7, 8

Thorough practice of the selected concertos and pieces.

Lessons 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

Practical assessments, rehearsals, recitals and concerts with the repertoire for the Bachelor's exam.

Evaluation Methods: Practical Assessments – Exam

Bachelor's Exam:

- One fugue by Bach or the Chaconne
- One classical work
- One romantic work
- One 20th century work
- One work by a Romanian composer

* - it is mandatory to perform on important violin concerto