Syllabus

**Course Goal:** To grow as a contemporary string player and creative artist in a range of classical and contemporary musical genres. To develop contemporary string ensemble/section skills including stylistic interpretation, solo improvisation, rhythm section skills, improvised accompaniment, percussion and other extended string techniques, and use of amplification. Students are encouraged to arrange/compose for the group.

**Course Expectations:** Students are expected to be present and on time for all rehearsals. Each unexcused absence will result in a letter grade deduction from the final semester grade. Students are expected to be prepared for each rehearsal, with measurable weekly progress on one or more of our weekly short-term goals. All students are expected to represent the Thornton School of Music, the Popular Music Department, and the creative string playing community positively and professionally; at all times, both on and off campus.

**Course Hours:** Thursdays from 5:00 to 6:50pm. Sectionals and additional/makeup rehearsals may be scheduled as needed.

**Grade:** Your semester grade will be determined by attendance (25%), weekly progress on assigned work (25%), in-class participation/contribution to rehearsal (25%), and concert performance (25%).

**Spring 2018 Performances**

- **Saturday/Sunday 2/24 & 2/25**
  - MTEC String Arranging Recording Sessions
  - TMC Red/Blue Studios
  - 9a – 4p

- **Friday 4/6**
  - Community Outreach Performance 1
  - Gertz Ressler High School
  - 2023 S Union Ave
  - Los Angeles, CA 90007
  - Afternoon (time TBD)

- **Friday 4/13**
  - Community Outreach Performance 2
  - New Designs High School
  - 2303 S Figueroa Way
  - Los Angeles, CA 90007
  - 1:00 – 2:00p

- **Friday 4/20**
  - Pop String Ensemble Showcase
  - Songwriter’s Theater
  - 8p

- **Friday 4/27**
  - Sophomore Pop Showcase
  - Carson
  - 8p

- **Saturday 4/28**
  - Junior Pop Showcase
  - Carson
  - 7:30p

**Disability Statement:** Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is 213/740-0776.

**Required Books**

Additional Required Materials

• Small 3-ring binder or spiral notebook with blank staff paper
• Folder for ensemble music
• Random Roots (free downloadable pdf) [http://antonjazz.com/2013/06/random-roots/]

Recommended Software / Apps

"Tempo” metronome app (or similar)
http://www.frozenape.com/tempo-metronome.html

"iRealPro"

"AnyTune"
For deliberate listening and transcription. Available for Mac, iOS, and Android. https://anytune.us

"DrumGenius"
Great selection of drum loops for iOS and Android
http://www.projazzlab.com