

University of North Texas College of Music
Double Bass Syllabus
MUAM 1507/3507
Fall: 2026

Dr. Gudrun Raschen: Phone: (940) 395-9566; Email: Gudrun.Raschen@unt.edu; and
Professor Jeff Bradetich: Phone: (940) 368-9713; Email: Jeffrey.Bradetich@unt.edu

Office: Jeff Bradetich: Room 222, Gudrun Raschen: Music Annex 120

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course consists of weekly 50-minute lessons, studio class, and string departmental. The curriculum is structured to maximize your potential on the double bass and as a musician, to prepare you through artistic excellence and musical accomplishment, and to equip you with the tools to be optimally positioned to achieve the best possible outcome for your professional goals.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

You are expected to develop at your own pace through focused practice, structured learning, and weekly feedback on practice methods, listening skills, score study, audio/video analysis, and other areas of undergraduate study. The goal is to develop your technique, musicianship, artistry, and performance readiness by continually sharpening all skills and achieving maximum outcomes as efficiently as possible.

LESSON REQUIREMENTS

Please arrive on time and be prepared for each lesson. You are expected to develop independent learning by studying the score, researching the composer and the composition's style and period, listening to and watching outstanding performances of the pieces you are preparing, and developing well-thought-out practice methods.

If a work requires piano accompaniment, please allow plenty of time for both you and the pianist to prepare and rehearse. It is recommended that you play with your pianist in your lesson(s) at least 2-3 weeks before juries or other performances. You are expected to record yourself regularly to develop listening skills and become your own teacher outside of lessons. The weekly lessons are there to guide you in this process. All students are asked to bring a notebook to every lesson to facilitate communication between the teacher and the student.

CHOOSING A PRACTICE PARTNER

For first- and second-year students, we recommend finding a practice partner in the bass studio. Ideally, this partner should be at a similar level to yours. Please set aside time to practice technique together and to perform for each other, especially during your first and second years of study. For third- and fourth-year students, please send a 3-5-minute recording to each other by Friday at 10 pm. Give feedback within 3-5 days of your performance for your practice partner, and regularly perform excerpts and solos for each other. We would like this recorded in your Bass Journal.

COURSE AND SUPPORTIVE MATERIAL

A Bass Journal that you bring to every lesson to record weekly assignments, the most important points of your lesson, practice hours, self-reflections, and what repertoire you shared as a recording or performance for your practice partner.

Instrument: A well-maintained bass, a professional bow, rosin, and a pencil.

If you are borrowing a bass from UNT, please take utmost care and wipe away rosin regularly. If you have any setup, damage, or other instrument-related issues, please see Joel McMillian in the Music Annex.

Metronome and Tuner: Required for every practice session.

A recording device is required to record practice sessions and lessons.

Books and Methods:

Jeff Bradetich: *The Ultimate Challenge* available at Miabass.org

Jeff Bradetich: *Technique* available at ovationpress.com

All material assigned by your teacher

Recommended:

Isaia Bille: *New Method of Double Bass Playing*

Giovanni Bottesini: *Method for Double Bass*

Hal Robinson: *Boardwalkin'*, available at Robertson and Sons Violin Shop

Hal Robinson: *Strokin'*, available at Robertson and Sons Violin Shop

Otakar Sevcik: *School of Bowing Technique*, Opus 2

Frederick Zimmerman: *A Contemporary Concept of Bowing for Double Bass*

Francesco Petracchi: *Simplified Higher Technique for Double Bass*

François Rabbath: *Nouvelle technique de la contrebasse*

Rodolphe Kreutzer: *18 Studies* available at Lemur Music

Memberships:

ISB membership to inform yourself and keep up with current double bass developments and events.

The Music Major Handbook will help you stay up to date on everything related to your degree as a performer, including performance and exam procedures and graduation deadlines.

All other materials will be assigned based on technical proficiency and artistic development.

CANVAS:

Most of the Bass Area communication will be through Canvas. Please ensure you follow all announcements and updates and check in regularly.

STRING DEPARTMENTAL

The student is required to attend all scheduled String Departmental sessions on Thursdays at 1:10 pm in Voertman Hall. Performance majors are encouraged to perform at least once per semester.

Please discuss with your professor if he/she believes you are ready to perform in this environment.

This is an excellent opportunity to perform solos outside of bass class or juries and to receive feedback from colleagues. Supporting each other is important and will further develop your listening and performing skills.

LESSON ATTENDANCE:

You are expected to attend all your lessons. If you have a conflict, please reschedule at your earliest convenience.

1. Try to swap lesson times with a colleague.
2. If you can't swap, reschedule as soon as possible, no later than 24 hours in advance.
3. Should you feel sick, we would be grateful if you reschedule to avoid getting everyone else sick.
4. Bass class is mandatory and counts toward your lesson grade. Please email JB and GR if you have a conflict.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Availability for the Bass Giving concert on November 15th at 7 pm is mandatory.

You are expected to attend all rehearsals, which will mostly be at 7 pm on Tuesdays before bass class.

Students are required to attend at least 15 performances per semester. Please collect the programs and bring them to your lesson or jury at the end of the semester. (These performances may be on or off campus.)

JURIES:

All students are expected to play juries at the end of the semester unless they are performing in a recital that semester. Please ensure that your jury time does not conflict with a class time.

Sign up promptly and make sure your pianist can make the scheduled time.

All juries must be played with piano unless you are performing an unaccompanied work.

Your performance should not exceed eight minutes. Know that your performance will be cut at the eight-minute mark.

PERFORMANCES/PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

You represent yourself, the double bass studio, and the College of Music at every performance. You are expected to dress and act professionally at all concerts, juries, masterclasses, and auditions.

Always arrive early for performances, juries, and gigs; 15 minutes before the start time is usually the absolute minimum required. Be respectful, reliable, and prepared. Current colleagues, faculty, and administrators could be on your future search committees' audition panels and could become valuable references. **Your professional career starts now.**

Use every opportunity you can to perform solo, orchestral, and chamber repertoire. All the hours of practice and preparation can be relatively fruitless unless you share them with others. The best way to become good at something is to do it. Learn from your mistakes and build your confidence through experience. Everyone in the bass studio is very supportive of each other.

We want you to be successful and enjoy it all.

All the best on your journey!

GRADING:

Your grade will be determined at the end of the semester and is a combination of lessons, bass class participation, and string departmental.

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

- Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator

- Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322
- Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293
- Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard
- Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk
- Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building
- Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side
- Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms
- Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect.

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access.

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at: <https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Fall Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Semester Calendar, Fall 2026

See: [Fall Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

Students holding music scholarships must maintain a minimum 2.5 overall cumulative GPA and 3.0 cumulative GPA in music courses.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Music scholarships require a 3.5 cumulative GPA. Students cannot exceed maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended you schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college, an advisor in UNT-International or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course.

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

COUNSELING AND TESTING

UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: [Counseling and Testing](#)

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

Additional Resources for Faculty

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (including sample statement for syllabi)

See: [Faculty Guide for the Use of AI](#)

Link: <https://guides.library.unt.edu/artificial-intelligence/AIfaculty>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university's policy in accordance with those mandates.

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>