

# MC250/MC650 – Writing For Strings

California Institute of the Arts  
Syllabus, Spring 2012

Instructor: Andrew Tholl, office B241, [thollspring2012@gmail.com](mailto:thollspring2012@gmail.com)  
Class Time: Tuesday, 10:10 – 11:00am, Wild Beast

## Course Description

This course will lead the student in writing for strings instruments, both in individual and ensemble contexts through lectures, demonstrations, discussion, and performance.

In this class you will have the opportunity to:

- Learn the fundamentals of writing for a string instrument
- Learn typical notation symbols for string players
- Study examples of both successful and unsuccessful string writing
- Write for solo violin, violin duo (or violin/viola duo), string trio (violin/viola/cello), and string quartet.
- Have your compositions played in reading sessions

## Evaluation will be based on:

- **Attendance**  
You are expected to attend all class meetings
- **Participation**  
You must make an active contribution to the class discussion
- **Assignments**  
There will be four assignments over the course of the semester (solo, duo, trio, quartet). You must complete all assignments. These assignments must follow the given guidelines and must be legible.

**Course Policies:** Absence from class will not be excused unless you make prior arrangements with the instructor or provide a doctor's note verifying your inability to attend class. Eating and drinking will be permitted as long as it is not disruptive to the class; this policy may be changed at any time by the instructor.

**Please Note: There will be no class on Feb. 7th or Mar. 27th (Spring Break).**