

Violin Repair and Making

Red Wing Campus

OVERVIEW

In the Violin Repair and Making program at Minnesota State College Southeast in Red Wing, students learn about tools, woods, materials, and common repair and maintenance techniques. The Violin Repair diploma at MSC Southeast is unique in that it is structured for an entire academic year (two semesters). Other institutions offer shorter workshops, some as brief as a week, that offer an overview of the repair process. There are 3 and 4- year programs that teach violin making but do not provide the same degree of in-depth focus on repairing instruments and bows.

Our students learn in-depth by completing many different repair process multiple times during the year of study. Every step of learning is supported by expert demonstration and lecture.

- Fine motor skills, patience and the ability to focus on the work at hand are essential.
- No previous experience with woodworking is required as violin repair is very different from other woodworking crafts. You will learn from the ground up.
- Students have the option to make a violin over the course of the two-semester program, including varnishing and professional set up.

The aim of the Violin Repair and Making program is for students to be prepared to work in the best violin shops in the world and to continue the lifelong process of learning the art. In recent years, our students have achieved 100% job placement: those who earn the Violin Repair diploma and are seeking employment have consistently found work in the field.

MAJORS WITHIN

Violin Repair - Diploma, 39 credits

Estimated costs for each major including tuition, books and supplies are posted on southeastmn.edu under Academics > Academic Programs by Degree.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Program graduates will be able to:

1. Perform a professional set up on a violin, viola, and cello. This includes fitting pegs, making nuts, fingerboards, saddles, fitting soundposts and bridges.
2. Diagnose and perform violin family repairs to a professional level of quality. This includes taking apart, gluing, reinforcing, making replacement parts, and repairing the varnish.
3. Diagnose and perform basic bow repairs and maintenance, including rehiring and grip replacement, to a professional level. Crack gluing and reinforcement may be included.
4. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the violin makers of the past and present
5. Identify natural resins, solvents, & oils, including their characteristics used in varnish making and touch ups
6. Identify instrument making woods and related materials, including characteristics and origins.
7. Prepare, make, and use basic and specialty hand and power tools.
8. Communicate effectively using written, oral, and electronic methods.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Unique in length and comprehensiveness in the United States

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Music Stores
Repair Shops
Musical Instrument Manufacturers
Entrepreneurial Opportunities

JOB PLACEMENT

100%



Violin Repair - Diploma Sample Full-time Program Plan

Please note that this is a sample program schedule. Your schedule may vary depending upon your needs, goals, and course availability.
Please meet with your advisor to plan your schedule each semester.

| Course No. | Course Name | Credits |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS | | |
| | English/Communications requirement | 2 |
| | Math requirement | 2 |
| | Semester total | 4 |
| Fall Semester | | |
| VLNR1301 | Introduction to Tools | 2 |
| VLNR1305 | Basic Materials | 1 |
| VLNR1312 | Introduction to Violin Playing | 1 |
| VLNR1321 | Bow Rehairing | 4 |
| VLNR1325 | Bow Repairs | 2 |
| VLNR1327 | Violin Varnish | 2 |
| VLNR1341 | Ebony Work | 5 |
| | Semester total | 17 |
| Spring Semester | | |
| VLNR1315 | Violin History | 2 |
| VLNR1351 | Bridges and Soundposts | 8 |
| VLNR1361 | Violin Repairing | 8 |
| | Semester total | 18 |
| | Total Required Credits | 39 |
| OPTIONAL CLASSES | | |
| VLNR1370 | Violin Construction I | 6 |
| VLNR1371 | Violin Construction II | 6 |
| | | 12 |