



Student Testimonials

- Dr. Whitcomb would stop at nothing to help students reach their fullest musical potential.
- I have always found his teaching to be of the highest level.
- His coaching of ensembles is extraordinary.
- Dr. Whitcomb holds his students to high standards and provides the means to reach those standards.
- Dr. Whitcomb has created a very positive attitude and esprit de corps in the cello studio.
- The education that I received from Dr. Whitcomb has already proven to be very important in my teaching career and I still refer to him when I have questions.
- I learned more in his classes than I ever knew I was capable of, simply because he continued to challenge me so that the learning and growing never stopped.
- He is unmatched at the ability to encourage and uplift students while remaining realistic and systematically critical to areas that require improvement.

About Dr. Whitcomb

Benjamin Whitcomb, Professor of Cello at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, has received awards for his teaching, research, and service. An active recitalist and chamber musician, he performs frequently throughout the country and abroad. He is a member of the Ancora String Quartet and the UW-W Piano Trio. Dr. Whitcomb is a prolific author, having published dozens of articles in seven different journals and presented over forty papers at national and international conferences. He has contributed to three books and published ten, including *The Advancing String Player's Handbook* series, *Cello Fingerings*, and *Bass Fingerings*, all of which have received rave reviews from numerous string journals. More recent books include the *Compendium of Chords* series and the *Guide to Practicing the Popper Etudes*. His solo CDs are available from MSR Classics.



Dr. Whitcomb is very active in the American String Teachers Association, having served as Wisconsin state president, national Secretary, and as chair of several national committees. He has also served on the faculty of the National String Workshop and is in high demand as a masterclinician. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and Oklahoma State University, and he has studied with Phyllis Young, George Neikrug, and Evan Tonsing.



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

Cello Studio



Dr. Benjamin Whitcomb
Professor of Cello

Ensembles

The opportunities for cello playing at UW-Whitewater are numerous, including lessons, orchestras, alternative styles and early music ensembles, chamber music, and Cello Ensemble. In addition, there are other opportunities including masterclasses, student organizations like the Cello Club and Collegiate ASTA, and cello-related projects through the Undergraduate Research and Research Assistant Program.

Large Ensembles

UW-Whitewater has a Symphony and a Chamber Orchestra. In addition, some students are awarded fellowships to perform with the Lake Geneva Symphony. UW-W also has a Baroque Ensemble and an Improvisor's Orchestra. Students may participate in chamber ensembles that receive coachings from string faculty.

Cello Ensembles

The UW-W Cello Ensemble provides an opportunity for cellists to explore the wonderful repertoire for multiple cellos and to learn how to match tone, intonation, and vibrato with other cellists in the studio. The ensemble has performed twice for the state music educators convention and has performed numerous world premiers of cello ensemble repertoire. In addition, the UW-W Cello Ensemble forms the core of the cello orchestras that rehearse and perform at the annual UW-W Cello Festivals.

Cello Seminar

The studio meets together weekly for a variety of activities, such as:

- **Discussions of technique issues relevant to everyone**
- **Sectionals on orchestra repertoire**
- **Surveys of the repertoire or famous cellists**
- **Masterclasses with guest artists. Past guest artists include Mark Summers, Peter Wiley, Phyllis Young, Douglas Moore, David Littrell, Cornelia Watkins, and Anne Witt.**



Private Lessons



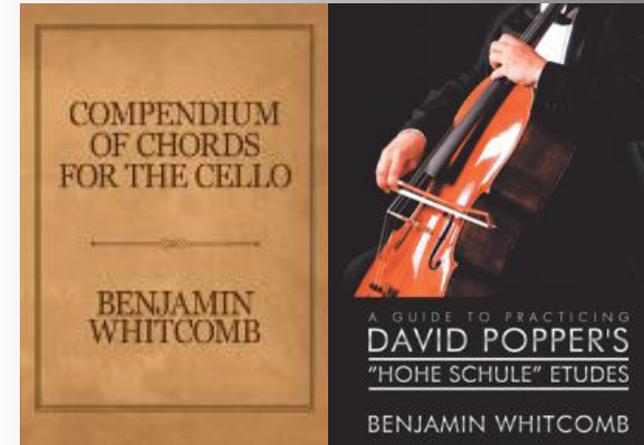
Masterclasses



For More Information:

- <https://www.uww.edu/cac/music/ensembles/celloensemble>
- <https://www.uww.edu/ce/camps/music/cello-fest>
- www.benjaminwhitcomb.com
- 262-472-5573

Pedagogy



Cello-related Research and Projects

UW-Whitewater is one of the most active universities in the country in terms of Undergraduate Research. Over the years, members of the cello studio have helped in a variety of ways with Dr. Whitcomb's multitude of books, articles, and papers on cello pedagogy. One project that is currently being worked on is the cataloguing of the compositions and arrangements of Evan Tonsing.

Alumni

Graduates of the UW-Whitewater cello studio teach privately or in public school programs all around the region and the country. They perform in classical orchestras and chamber ensembles, but many also play jazz, rock, and folk music as well. Many have won awards for their playing, teaching, or service to the profession.

What will you do as a graduate of UW-Whitewater cello studio?

Degree Offerings:

- Music education
- Music performance
- Bachelor of Arts
- Theory/Composition
- Media Arts and Game Design
- Individualized major
- Music Minor