

Eric Lenz

Eric Lenz, D.M.A., is Associate Professor of Cello at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

On faculty at SIU since 2003, Lenz teaches studio cello and chamber music, in addition to courses in harmony, analysis and counterpoint. A tenured member of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Lenz also serves as principal cello of the Paducah Symphony. He has performed with the Alabama, Charleston, and Missouri Symphonies, and with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra. Summer appointments have included Spoleto Festival USA and Brevard Music Center, where he served as orchestral fellow. Lenz has served on faculty at Lutheran Summer Music and the Illinois Chamber Music Festival. Around the world Lenz has performed in venues such as the Banff Centre, the Chinese Central Conservatory in Beijing and Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall. Chamber music coaches include the Juilliard, Emmerson, Guarnari, Cleveland, and Cavani quartets.

Lenz double majored in music and mathematics at St. Olaf College, where he graduated with distinction for his work in both fields and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society. He holds graduate degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music—where he studied with Stephen Geber, principal cellist of the Cleveland Orchestra—and the University of Alabama, where he was awarded the Moody String Fellowship. Further studies include residencies in France at the Conservatoire National d'Angers and in the Czech Republic at the Institut franco-tchèque.

In the field of early music, Lenz has performed on baroque cello with the Cleveland Camerata and on viola da gamba with the Case Western Reserve Viol Consort. Lenz performs frequently with the Southern Illinois Chamber Music Society, an exciting local organization which sponsors visiting artists and offers scholarships to SIUC students who play string instruments.