Program Learning Outcomes

The student will demonstrate knowledge of applicable solo materials, an orientation to the fundamentals of pedagogy as pertaining to the instrument or area of study, and comprehensive capabilities in preparing and performing a solo at a high level.

Lesson Objectives

1. The objective of applied clarinet lessons is to provide students with instructions and materials that will allow them to improve in all areas of clarinet playing. Those areas include, but are not limited to: tone production, breath control, articulation and clarity, finger dexterity, extending range, phrasing, rhythm reading, stylistic interpretation from different periods, dynamics, endurance, accuracy, intonation, transposition, and sight-reading. Because these are individual lessons, the level of materials assigned will commensurate with the level of the student’s playing abilities.

2. The objectives from item 1 will be achieved through the practice of SCALES, technical methods, etude books, solos, orchestral excerpts, and other supplemental materials deemed necessary by the professor.

Ultimately your lessons are meant to help you to become the best musician, clarinetist, and teacher that your talent and desire will allow. I will always help you in any way I can to achieve these goals.

General

1. Please keep me advised of any changes in your schedule.

2. Get in the habit of checking my door often for any pertinent messages concerning you. Come by my office often.

3. Expect to have to buy materials for clarinet lessons every semester. These will include, but not be limited to, recordings, method books, etude books, textbooks, and solos. The total cost to you per may be between $50 and $100. It is important to build your personal library as you will use it for the rest of your musical career.

4. Everyone should own a good metronome and a good chromatic tuner. In addition, you should purchase The Tuning CD (A=440) by Richard Schwartz from iTunes. Go to his web site for more information: http://www.wix.com/raschwartz/the-tuning-cd

5. Lessons will be 25 minutes duration. This helps me to stay on schedule in case I run overtime, and helps you to get to your next class on time.
6. If you are having problems and you are unhappy with your lessons, please discuss them with me first. If the problem cannot be resolved, we will make an appointment with the Director of the School of Music and find a solution.

Attendance

1. Your lesson is a regularly scheduled class and should be treated as such. Do not make doctor's appointments, appointments with other instructors, appointments for make-up tests, etc. during your lesson time. You are allowed one free absence each semester without impact on your applied lesson grade.

2. We will always try to make-up lessons due to excused absences, with the exception of school functions that cause a large number of students or the instructor to miss (such as ensemble tours or TMEA). Weekly studio classes are intended to help offset the occasions when the instructor might have to miss your lesson and is unable to find a make-up time.

3. If you miss a lesson because of sickness, I will try to reschedule the lesson for 30 minutes at another time.

4. Attendance is required at all clarinet recitals, along with occasional other performances deemed important by the instructor. Each unexcused absence will deduct 5% from your final applied lesson grade. Excuses may only be granted in advance by Dr. Ayer.

Practice and Performance

1. Theoretically, since you are signed up for 1 hour credit, you should practice at least 1 hour per day.

2. The materials chosen for each student are based on the instructor's perception of the student's level of ability. It is in your best interest to let me know if the materials you are assigned are too difficult or too easy, especially the latter.

3. Please be prompt and warmed up for your lesson, regardless of when it is.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, if fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise
obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities

Students with Disabilities-To obtain disability related accommodations and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Bldg. Rm. 325, 468-3004/ 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/