Course Description:
MUP 119/319 Two credits = 1 hour lesson per week and two hour minimum daily practice outside of large and chamber ensembles. These courses are for music education majors only. Students are expected to practice diligently their weekly assignments, and to come to lessons warmed up (when possible).

MUP 129/329/529 Three credits = 1 hour lesson per week and three hour minimum daily practice outside of large and chamber ensembles. These courses are for music performance majors only. Students are expected to practice diligently their weekly assignments, and to come to lessons warmed up (when possible).

Expectations in 300/500-Level Courses:
The workload/productivity expectations for students enrolled in upper or graduate-level private applied saxophone (300/500) are the same as the 100 level. They are required, however, to choose appropriate repertoire from the corresponding sections on the repertoire list attached to this syllabus or other pieces with the consent of the instructor.

Program Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of Private Applied Saxophone study at Stephen F. Austin State University, each student will be able to demonstrate:

• knowledge of a broad spectrum of solo and chamber repertoire for and including saxophone,
• a thorough understanding of the fundamentals of saxophone pedagogy, and
• an ability to explain interpretational, non-verbal conceptions/thoughts of music in a cogent and pedagogically sound, verbal manner.

Course Objectives:
The primary objective of private applied saxophone is to gain refinement of technique and control of the saxophone in order to more readily facilitate musical expression. This is achieved through
regular instruction and practice of assigned solo and chamber repertoire as well as scales, etudes and technical exercises. Students are expected to learn a minimum of 3-5 pieces (selected from the repertoire list attached to this syllabus) per semester. Specific objectives will vary depending on the playing level of each student, the year of study, and any major pending performances (upper level juries, recitals, competitions, etc.).

By the end of each semester of study, each student should be able to:

- demonstrate an increased knowledge of proper fundamentals of playing the saxophone (embouchure, air support, articulation, technique, vibrato, etc.),
- perform various scales utilizing the entire range of the saxophone, identify weaknesses in one’s own playing and understand how to address them,
- demonstrate pedagogical methods for teaching all levels of saxophonists,
- demonstrate an expanded knowledge of the standard saxophone repertoire,
- practice productively and efficiently, and
- demonstrate increasingly competent and confident performance skills.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Practice Policy:
Students are expected to practice diligently their weekly assignments and to arrive at lessons warmed up, with instrument assembled. Daily practice time should, at minimum, correspond to the number of credit hours received for the course; enrollment in 119 or 319, for example, is worth two credit hours, equivalent to two hours of daily practice. In reality, however, one should practice as much as is necessary to achieve and surpass the goals for the lesson.

Studio Class:
There is a weekly Studio Class required for all saxophone majors, held every Wednesday at 1:00 PM (see attendance policy below). Everyone is required to perform in at least one studio class every year, and this performance will constitute a portion of the final grade. (This performance is scheduled in advance.) In addition, the Studio Class may be used as a vehicle for making up lessons missed because of instructor absence.

Required materials:
Professional quality instrument in working order and several reeds in playing condition
Metronome (Dr. Beat or other metronome of similar quality is preferred)
Tuner
All etude books and music as assigned. These must be purchased.

Attendance Policy:
Punctual attendance is expected at all lessons. Unexcused absences for lessons will result in a ZERO for the weekly grade, and these lessons will NOT be made up. Two unexcused lessons will result in lowering the final semester grade by one letter. Each subsequent absence will lower the final grade by an additional letter. Lessons missed because of illness, family emergency, or university functions may be excused if the instructor has been notified ahead of time by phone or email and with an accompanying medical excuse in case of illness. Lessons missed due to an excused absence will be scheduled at the instructor’s discretion and convenience. Lessons missed due to the instructor’s absence will be made-up as close to the missed lesson as possible.
Attendance at Studio Class is likewise mandatory. An unexcused absence from this class will lower the weekly grade by two letter grades. (For example, if the lesson grade for the week is an A, the weekly grade will be lowered to a C if Studio Class is missed.)

Attendance at all recitals and other master classes featuring the saxophone in some way (student, faculty, or guest) is expected and mandatory. These events will be posted on the board by Dr. Nabb’s office door and announced in Studio Class as far in advance as possible.

GRADING POLICY

Weekly Saxophone Lesson:
The student will receive a grade for each weekly repertoire and technique lesson. It is the responsibility of the student to be fully prepared for each lesson. If the student has not adequately prepared the assigned materials for the lesson, he/she will be sent out of the lesson, will be expected to practice for that time and will receive a failing grade for that lesson. Weekly lesson grades count for 70% of the student’s final grade.

Saxophone Notebook:
Students enrolled in Mr. Bissen’s lessons will turn in a weekly reflection at the beginning of each lesson. This reflection should be written as soon as possible after a lesson, and should include details regarding the content of the lesson, how the student understood the content, and how the student intents to improve the next week.

Juries/Sophomore Barriers:
The final examination, or jury, for applied lessons will be a performance in front of the woodwind faculty, which usually takes place at the end of “Dead Week.” This will be the culminating performance of a piece selected from the repertoire studied that semester. Juries are not accompanied and are not required for students attempting a Sophomore Barrier or a degree recital. Final jury grades count for 15% of the student’s final grade.

The Sophomore (Upper Level) Barrier is normally performed at the end of the fourth semester of study and will be presented in front of the entire instrumental faculty. Students are required to perform a solo with accompaniment (which may consist of an entire solo or a movement from a substantial multi-movement work) as well as all scales. Final jury grades count for 15% of the student’s final grade.

OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES

Withheld Grades (A-54)
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 semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
*Important note: If a student has not returned materials (sheet music, mouthpieces, ligatures, etc.) borrowed from the instructor by the end of the semester, he or she will receive a WH until those materials are returned. If these materials are lost, they must be replaced at the student’s expense.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1):**
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, in 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](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).