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 freshman and sophomore clarinet 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.

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.

3. After four semesters of applied lessons at the 119 level, a student that has achieved all of the above elements at a proficient level will be able to pass an upper-level jury into MUP 319. The upper level jury MUST be attempted after the fourth semester.

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. This is available through Amazon, Spotify, etc.
5. Lessons will be of 50 minutes or 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.

7. SCALES: the scale studies in the Baermann method book will have a minimum required tempo of QUARTER NOTE=100. The thirds will have a minimum required tempo of QUARTER NOTE=60. Tempos for other exercises will be as assigned. This is for ALL KEYS, both MAJOR and MINOR.

8. Everyone will need to make a copy of their solo to give to their lesson partner and it is required to bring these copies to your buddy lessons.

Grades

The grading of the applied lesson is highly subjective by nature, however I will assign a grade to you each week based on your preparation and performance at each lesson. The criteria for each lesson grade will include lesson preparation of weekly assignments (i.e. practice), and attitude and improvement. If you do not show up to a scheduled lesson and you have not contacted me IN ADVANCE, you will receive a zero for that lesson.

The points associated with each letter grade will be allocated as follows:

A  95  
A- 91  
B+ 88  
B  85  
B- 81  
C+ 78  
C  75  

C- 71  
D+ 68  
D  65  
D- 61  
F  59--0

The final grade in most semesters will be based on the following:

Average of weekly lesson grades  75%
Average of jury grades  25%

The final grade in the upper level semester will be based on the following:

Average of weekly lesson grades  100%
(Scales are a big part of the grade)

It is possible that there will be other graded assignments as the year or semester progresses. If so, the percentage of your grade that it will count will be determined at the time of the assignment.
**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.

2. Weekly studio classes are intended to help offset the occasions when lessons are missed due to university excused absences or school functions that cause a large number of students or the instructor to miss (such as ensemble tours, instructor performance tours, TMEA).

3. **If you miss a lesson because of sickness but attend ensemble rehearsal or other classes that same day, you will receive an ‘F’ for that lesson.** If you are experiencing sickness that prevents you from being at your lesson but allows you to attend other classes that same day, then I will need to see a doctor’s note that explains the absence from lessons. Upon request, I will endeavor to schedule a makeup lesson at a time that is mutually convenient.

4. Attendance at studio classes and convocations is required. Always keep this time (1:00 on Wednesdays) open on your schedule.

5. 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.

**Time Requirements/credit hours**

This is a two credit hour course. Clarinet lessons will consist of 75 minutes /week of contact time with the instructor as well as a weekly studio class of 50 minutes. You should expect to engage in individual practice at least 2 hours per day. However, the reality is that you should practice as much as is necessary to get the job done, and that job is to be a fine musician and clarinetist.

**Practice and Performance**

1. 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.

2. Usually, all students will be required to perform in studio class twice each semester (Wednesdays at 1:00). All students will be required to perform in a studio recital at least once a year. Advanced students are strongly encouraged to perform more often. This will include securing an accompanist far in advance of the performance and regularly rehearsing with that accompanist. Individual junior or senior recitals will require that you pay your accompanist. The policy regarding accompanists is that you must secure an accompanist through Dr. Petti (he will need to see your accompaniment at that time), and give them your music a minimum of five weeks in advance of your performance. Dr. Petti is in room 283.

3. Students are encouraged to participate in as many ensembles as possible, in order to diversify your abilities to play and teach in all situations and styles. However, it is possible to overdo it. Please discuss all performing commitments with me.
4. Please be prompt and warmed up for your lesson, regardless of when it is.

5. When you commit yourself to a performing organization, be there at the right time, with the right equipment, and the right attitude.

**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/
COVID-19 addenda

During this unprecedented time of a global pandemic, class attendance must be approached differently from the way it would in a standard semester. If you are sick or have any symptoms (even if they are slight) that might relate to COVID-19, please stay home to protect yourself, your classmates, and your professors. As your instructor, I will expect that you work with me to enable you to receive any necessary course content (including classroom lectures) and complete any assignments, quizzes, or exams that you may miss due to being sick or having COVID-19-related symptoms. I also expect you to notify me prior to class if you will be missing for COVID-19 or any other reason. If you are well, have no symptoms, and are not required to remain at home for any COVID-19 or other health-related reason, you should attend class and abide by all of the University’s health protocols. Attendance during this time may take many forms due to the various course formats being offered this fall.

Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


This semester, you may be having your lessons entirely online through uploaded videos and online meetings with me; or a 25 minute face to face lesson and a 15 minute online meeting with me to go over your uploaded videos. If COVID-19 conditions require it, we may have to switch lessons to TOTALLY online for everyone. For studio recital performances, it may be necessary to perform with a recording of the piano part for your assigned repertoire.