

BASSOON STUDIO (GRADUATE)

MVO 6460

-FALL 2018 Course Syllabus-

Class Meeting location, times, and sections:

MUB 332 (Studio); MUB 355 (Lesson)

Mondays—6th Period (12:50PM-1:40PM); Lesson Day/Time TBD

Instructor

Dr. Shannon Lowe

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352.273.3185

Office: 355 MUB

Office Hours: By Appointment or as posted online

Course Description

Study in the University of Florida Bassoon Studio encompasses a curriculum that is designed to mold bassoonists into sensitive, knowledgeable, and successful musicians. Through highly individualized instruction, experiences, peer collaborations/interactions, and performances, students are prepared to be confident in diverse musical settings.

All students in the studio will take part in the following:

- Weekly private lessons with the instructor that focus on developing technique, tone, musicianship, and confidence on the bassoon.
- Weekly studio classes that include topics such as performance issues, reed making, ensemble playing, master classes with guest artists, etc.

Course Objectives

By studying in the bassoon studio, students will be able to:

- Perform and interpret bassoon music of representative styles, including that of Western civilization and other world cultures.
- Present performances of solo and chamber repertoire in a variety of styles and settings.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply analytical and historical knowledge to live performance.
- Demonstrate an increasingly advanced level of performance skill throughout their studies.

Required Texts, Materials, Resources, Equipment

Students are expected and required to purchase equipment including: reeds/cane, reed-making tools, tuners, and metronomes as well as music/texts* assigned in lessons. The instructor will provide students with a list of resources to help locate/purchase music, reeds, equipment, etc.

- The ownership of a tuner and metronome is mandatory! *Note: phone tuning/metronome apps count!*
- The student must have playable reeds <see reed clause below>
- The student is required to bring a notebook to lessons in which he/she will use to write down weekly assignments and important notes from the instructor.

**If music and/or texts required for performance or lessons cannot be borrowed from the library, it is the student's responsibility to purchase these materials. Nonetheless, if the student plans on having a teaching and/or performance career involving the bassoon, it is necessary for the student to own a collection of performance pieces, texts, etude books, tools, equipment, method books, etc.*

Materials and Supply Fee

- \$30.00

Basic Expectations

- **Be Bassooning:** Put in the necessary effort (consistent practicing and goal setting) on your bassoon to make strides in your improvement.
- **Be Prepared:** Plan to arrive at lessons, studio classes, recitals, rehearsals, concerts, etc. with your assignments/music/responsibilities ready to go!
- **Be Respectful:** Treat all with respect and dignity, regardless of playing level, position, background, etc.
- **Be Professional:** Be on-time, accountable, reliable, responsible, and responsive in all communications.

Course Outline for Bassoon Studio

Weeks	Topic(s)**	Notes:
1 August 22	Ensemble Auditions 2pm-4pm	MUB 355 (Dr. Lowe's Office)
2 August 27	Syllabus; Info sheets; Getting to know the bassoon studio	
3 September 3	NO STUDIO OR LESSONS—LABOR DAY—NO CLASSES	
4 September 10	How to prepare/practice effectively (includes warm-ups)	Bring bassoons and one 1-4 bar passage from your music that is difficult
5 September 17	Woodwind Area Recital	
6 September 24	Reed Making 101: Building Blanks	Bring soaked GSP cane and any reed making tools you own
7 October 1	Woodwind Area Recital	
8 October 8	Addressing Performance and Audition Anticipation: Resources and Techniques	Bring bassoons and an excerpt, etude, selection from repertoire you are currently assigned. 5 FINISHED REEDS AND 20 REED BLANKS DUE
9 October 15	Woodwind Area Recital	
10 October 22	Dr. Reed Hanna Guest Artist Masterclass	
11 October 29	Woodwind Area Recital	
12 November 5	Woodwind Area Recital	
13 November 12	NO STUDIO OR LESSONS—VETERAN'S DAY—NO CLASSES	
14 November 19	Woodwind Area Recital	
15 November 26	HOLIDAY BASSOON ENSEMBLE MUSIC	
16 December 3	Scale/Technical Jury	5 FINISHED REEDS AND 20 REED BLANKS DUE

Course Components for Evaluation

- **Lesson Performance and Preparation (40%)**— To make improvements on the bassoon and as a musician, it is expected that students prepare their assigned exercises, etudes, pieces, etudes, etc. between lessons. Each lesson will be assigned with a grade following the rubric below.

Lesson Grading Rubric	
Grade	
100-90	Well prepared; many improvements made from previous week; great effort during lesson
80-89	Somewhat well prepared with some improvements made from previous week; good effort
70-79	Not very well prepared with very little improvements made from previous week; mediocre effort
60-69	Poorly prepared with no improvement made from previous week; poor effort
0-59	No preparation, no improvements made, no effort; unexcused missed lesson

- **Weekly Practice Log (5%)**—Each student will submit a weekly practice log to the instructor that chronicles their practice habits, goals, achievements, and notes from the week. The instructor will provide resources for practice logs. <See practice clause below>

- **Reed Quota (20%)**— The student is required to make **FIFTY (50) reeds** over the course of the semester:

Monday, October 8th	TWENTY (20) NEW reed blanks and FIVE (5) finished reeds
Monday, December 3rd	TWENTY (20) NEW reed blanks and FIVE (5) finished reeds

- **Ten (10)** of those reeds must be playable in order for the **full 20%** to be awarded; otherwise **only 15%** will be awarded. The instructor will help students in lessons with reed finishing.
- Any student observed “recycling” reeds (i.e. reusing blanks for each due date) or presenting reeds that are not of their own making **will lose one letter grade off of their entire studio grade.**
- Pictures will not suffice as proof of making reeds. Reeds must be presented to the instructor at the start of studio (see above outline for due dates).
- **Area or Convocation Recital Performance (10%)**— Each student is responsible for performing a solo work on a woodwind area recital, convocation recital, or studio recital.
 - The instructor will assign the specific recital category (i.e. WW Area), the date (in consultation with the student), and an appropriate piece (or movement[s]/selections) for the student to prepare.
 - As soon as the recital date is set, the student is responsible for contacting a collaborative pianist (if work includes a keyboard part) immediately and securing his/her services.
 - It is the student’s responsibility to pay for as well as to set up outside rehearsals with a collaborative pianist.
 - Any issue regarding the pianist must be brought to the instructor’s attention at least **2 WEEKS before the performance date.** Any notification less than 2 weeks may result in a possible cancellation of recital performance.
 - The student must set up **at least two rehearsals** (one session must be with the instructor in attendance) sessions with the collaborative pianist before performing on the recital. If the instructor has not heard the student rehearse with the pianist before the recital, she will cancel that student’s performance. If that occurs, the student will not receive credit for a semester recital performance and the highest grade assigned for this course will be a **90% (A).**
- **Scale Jury (15%)**— At the end of the semester, the instructor will hold a scale/technical jury for each bassoon studio member during studio class. Each studio member will be asked to perform selections from their scale/technical curriculum studied over the semester. At the very beginning of the semester, the instructor will

work with each individual student to design an appropriate scale/technical curriculum to aid in his/her preparation for this jury.

- **End of Semester Jury (10%)**— All students not performing a recital six weeks prior to the end of semester jury date will be required to sign up and play for a woodwind jury committee.
 - Jury signups will be available at least a week before the jury date.
 - **A minimum of two contrasting pieces, three etudes, and three excerpts** must be performed on the jury.
 - Students must come to the jury with **three copies of the program order and three copies of music**. These materials must be presented to the jury faculty in a neat and orderly fashion. Any student that is not prepared with the above **will lose 2% points off of the total percentage (10%)** for the end of semester jury.
 - Students will submit a Semester Repertoire Report, which specifies all materials studied during the current semester.

Evaluation

Lesson Performance and Preparation	40%
Weekly Practice Log (14 total)	5%
Area or Convo Recital Performance	10%
Reed Quota (25 total)	20%
Scale Jury	15%
End of Semester Jury	10%

Grading Scale*

Grade	Percent Grade	Points
A	93.4-100	4.00
A-	90.0-93.3	3.67
B+	86.7-89.9	3.33
B	83.4-86.6	3.00
B-	80.0-83.3	2.67
C+	76.7-79.9	2.33
C	73.4-76.6	2.00
C-	70.0-73.3	1.67
D+	66.7-69.9	1.33
D	63.4-66.6	1.00
D-	60.0-63.3	0.67
E	0-59.9	0.00

*More information on grades and grading policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Course Policies

- Cell phones, PDAs, MP3 players, laptop computers, and other electronic devices are **not to be used in studio or lessons** as they disrupt students' attention and distract the instructor. Any infraction (such as texting, talking, listening to MP3s) **will result** in a dismissal from the lesson/studio class and an assigned absence for the day. If a student needs to use an electronic device due to a documented disability, he/she needs to notify the instructor immediately.
- Students are expected to arrive on time to lessons and immediately notify the instructor if they will be arriving late. It is at the discretion of the instructor whether or not to allow for extra time at the end of the lesson or another scheduled lesson to make up for missed time due to a late arrival. **Multiple late arrivals (anything beyond 2 times) will result in the instructor diminishing the overall lesson grade by 30%.**
- **Communication Policies:**
 - Students are strongly urged to confer with the instructor on their progress or any issues or questions regarding lessons/studio classes. **Do not wait** until the end of the semester to consult the professor if you are encountering difficulties! To communicate with your instructor, use your UF email account, stop by during office hours, or set up an individual appointment.

- Bassoon studio members are required to treat each other with respect and be supportive of their peers in lessons, master classes, studios, etc.
- The instructor will utilize email as the main form of communication outside of class. **It is expected that students check their email multiple times a week** in order to not miss important announcements, postings, etc.
- The instructor will share her cell phone number with the studio to facilitate ease of communication for quick questions, simple scheduling issues/solutions, and/or urgent matters in regards to studio/lessons. However, students **are asked to not call/text between the hours of 10:30pm and 6am**; however, if it is an emergency, the instructor will respond. Additionally, the instructor requests that her number not be shared with other students without permission.
- Students are expected to respond to their instructor's inquiries, either verbally or through email, in a timely manner. Any emails sent to the instructor from a non-UF account **will not** receive a response.
- The instructor reserves the right to dismiss any student who is being disruptive or disrespectful in the lesson or studio class. Any student who is dismissed due to these reasons **will receive an absence for the day** and a follow up from the Dean of Students Office regarding proper decorum in lessons/studio.
- **Attendance Policy:** It is the expectation that students attend all lessons, studio classes, student woodwind area recitals, fellow bassoon studio members' recitals, and other double reed events except for those excused in advance due to illness (with documented note from Student Health Care Center or doctor's office) or personal/family emergencies/extenuating circumstances.
 - Attendance is mandatory for lessons/studio/area woodwind recitals; however, every student will be **permitted two (2)* unexcused absences total to use at their disposal** without penalty to his/her grade. After two absences are achieved, **each additional absence will result in a deduction of 5% from the overall grade.**
 - Absences may be arranged in advance for missing other events unrelated to studio class, lessons, or woodwind area recitals (i.e. convo recital where fellow studio mate is performing); however, the instructor must be given **at least 24 hours' notice through email and a strong case must be made for the absence. Without advance notification and/or an accumulation absences (over a couple), the instructor will deduct 5% from the overall grade.** The student will be notified through email, if this is an issue.

**Absences missed due to religious holiday or practice will not count against the overall allotted absence amount.*

- **Lesson Make-up Policy:**
 - Students are permitted to swap lesson times with studio mates; however, an email must be sent before this arrangement to all parties involved (both students and instructor).
 - In order for the student to make up a missed lesson, the instructor must receive notification (email or in-person) from the student of an illness/emergency **BEFORE** the lesson **as well as an excuse note** (*see bullet points below*) shown to the instructor at the next class the student attends. *Having a classmate notify the instructor of an issue will not suffice as notification or excuse!*
 - Lessons may only be made up if the student has one of the excuses below:
 - **Verifiable Illness** (confirmed by a health care provider/printout from student health care center/notification from registrar) or **Verifiable emergency** (with documentation).
 - School-sponsored trips/activities (bring a note from your instructor **before** the absence and schedule a make-up test **before the trip**).

- An absence on a test date **discussed** with the instructor and **excused in advance** (make-up lesson must be scheduled before the absence)
- **A Religious holiday/practice**
 - The instructor will not offer a make-up lesson for time lost due to a late arrival to a lesson.
 - The instructor will not offer a make-up lesson for an unexcused absence.

Practice Clause

It is expected that students maintain a regular practice routine in order to improve on their instrument. Consistent practice is more important than “binge” or last minute long hours practicing. Additionally, long hours practicing without frequent breaks can result in future injury. The instructor will work with students to come up with an appropriate and healthy practice routine.

Reeds Clause

The student must have a playable reed for each lesson. If a student arrives without a playable* reed, **he or she will lose one letter grade** off of the earned lesson grade for the day. Additionally, it is expected that the student rotate their good reeds! It is expected that the student have **at least 3 playable reeds** in their stockpile of usable reeds.

[Parameters for a *non-playable* reed: major cracks/chips that affect sound/pitch; inability to hold a stable pitch throughout the entire range; inability to let the player articulate freely; inability for certain notes to sound; inability to play softs and forte dynamics; brittle wires that no longer hold tension; overwhelming mold covering the reed; etc.]

Materials Clause

It is the student’s responsibility to come prepared to his/her lesson. If a student arrives without the week’s assigned etudes, pieces, and/or other miscellaneous exercise/assignments/equipment/materials, he/she will automatically receive a “65 D” for the lesson.

Physical Contact Clause

The possibility of physical contact with the teacher may occur in private lessons, but **not without the express permission from the student**. Any physical contact utilized will be demonstrated in a functional and professional way to help you better understand corrections given to you concerning your playing technique, posture, and/or breathing. *If you are uncomfortable with physical contact on any level, please inform the instructor immediately.*

Ensemble Clause

Each student in the Bassoon Studio is required to enroll and participate in one of the School of Music major performing ensembles. Placement will be made through auditions at the beginning of each semester.

Additionally, it is expected that once students are assigned specific parts by the instructor/director(s) in ensembles that they do not alter those assignments without permission from both the instructor and ensemble director. The studio teacher will defer to the conductor if he/she decides to change assignments and will not hold the student accountable for the conductor’s reassignment. However, if a student reassigns his/her part to another bassoon studio member without receiving written permission, he/she **will lose one letter grade off the entire studio grade**.

It is the students’ responsibility to know the substitute policy for their respective ensembles. **Students are required to cc the instructor on all emails regarding any substitutions with conductors, faculty members, and fellow bassoonists in the studio.**

Dress Code Clause

It is expected that bassoon studio members will dress professionally when performing (be it recital, jury, concert, etc.) and representing the bassoon studio in an important capacity. Members should adhere to the dress code standards as outlined by ensemble rules. If students have trouble securing professional items to wear, they can check out The Gator Career Closet (professional clothing lending service for UF students) <https://career.ufl.edu/careercloset/>

Musician Health Clause

Students should be mindful of their bodies' health when practicing, rehearsing, and performing. To find out more about resources in regards to musician health, check out:

<https://nasm.arts-accredit.org/publications/brochures-advisories/nasm-pama-nms-vocal-health/>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*
<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support, (352) 392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources

Agreement

By remaining in this class beyond the add/drop deadline, *you acknowledge and accept* the terms of this syllabus.

***Course evaluation, components, and class policies are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Students will be given due notice if any changes are made.**