

# BASSOON STUDIO (GRADUATE)

## MVO 6460

-SPRING 2020 Course Syllabus-

Class Meeting location, times, and sections:

MUB 332 (Studio); MUB 355 (Lesson)\* \*until end of January, then Rooms TBD

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

### Instructor

Dr. Shannon Lowe

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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 *(note: complete outline will be posted by the end of the second week of classes)*

Weeks	Topic(s)**	Notes:
<b>1 January 6</b>	<b>Master Class with Dr. Marissa Olegario</b>	Guest artist Recital at 7:30pm in MUB 101

## Course Components for Evaluation

- **Lesson Performance and Preparation (50%)**— 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 (10%)**— Each student will keep a weekly practice log on [GOOGLE CALENDAR](#) that chronicles his/her practice habits for each week. <See practice clause below>
- **Reed Quota (30%)**— The student is required to make **SEVENTY-FIVE (75) reeds** over the course of the semester as well as play on a **newly finished reed**, every week in the lesson:

<b>Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>FIFTEEN (15) NEW</b> reed blanks and <b>TEN (10) finished</b> reeds
<b>Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>FIFTEEN (15) NEW</b> reed blanks and <b>TEN (10) finished</b> reeds
<b>Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>FIFTEEN (15) NEW</b> reed blanks and <b>TEN (10) finished</b> reeds

- The **THIRTY (30)** finished reeds must be playable in order for the **full 30%** to be awarded; otherwise **only 15%** will be awarded. The instructor will help students in lessons with reed finishing.
- If a newly finished reed is not being played for a lesson, the student will **lose 2% points** off of their reed quota grade.
- 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 two letter grades 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 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)**.
- **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.
  - *If a student performs a recital during the six weeks prior to the end of semester jury, the 10% weighting for this category will be evenly split amongst the lesson performance and preparation category as well as the weekly practice log category.*

## Evaluation

<b>Lesson Performance and Preparation</b>	50%
<b>Weekly Practice Log (14 total)</b>	10%
<b>Area or Convo Recital Performance</b>	10%
<b>Reed Quota (75 total)</b>	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	100%

## 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

*\*\* The instructor reserves the right to **not** round up a student's grade to the next letter grade.*

## Course Policies

- Cell phones, PDAs, MP3 players, laptop computers, and other electronic devices are **not to be used in studio or lessons for non-lesson specific purposes** 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 two times) will result in the instructor deducting 30% from the overall lesson grade for each lesson with a late arrival.**
- **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 all students (**REGARDLESS OF MAJOR!**) 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), religious holiday observances/practices, or personal/family emergencies/extenuating circumstances.
  - Attendance is mandatory for lessons/studio; however, every student will be **permitted two (2)\* absences total to use at their disposal (for studio class and/or a lesson)** without penalty to his/her grade. The instructor must be notified in advance for a cancelled lesson or missed studio. After two absences are achieved, **each additional absence will result in a deduction of 5% from the overall grade.**
  - Students are allotted **one absence** for a woodwind area recital. If a woodwind area recital needs to be missed by the student, the instructor must receive notification through email; however if a bassoon studio member is performing, the absence *will not be excused* unless the student has a verifiable, valid

excuse. If the absence from woodwind area is deemed unexcused and a bassoon studio member is performing, **2% will be deducted from the overall grade**. Any absence after one missed woodwind area recital will result in a **2% deduction from the overall studio grade for each absence after the one allotted absence**.

- Extreme medical, family, and/or personal hardships encountered by the student that might result in achieving many absences that negatively affect his/her grade for and performance in this course must be brought to the instructor's attention immediately and have supporting verifiable documentation in order for the instructor to consider the student's earned grade without applying the absence penalty. It is advised that the student review UF's policies on withdrawals to find out what options are available should a situation described above arise: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/dropping-courses-withdrawals/#droppingcoursestext>

*\*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).
- **If students suspect they are sick or are sick, they must notify the instructor immediately by email and work to reschedule a lesson (or swap lesson with another studio member later in the week) when they are feeling better. The instructor reserves the right to dismiss students from a lesson, if they are sick.**
- 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 or Verifiable emergency
  - School-sponsored trips/activities
  - 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 makeup lesson for time lost due to a late arrival to a lesson.
- The instructor will not offer a makeup lesson for an unexcused absence or for the two allotted absences the student utilizes to miss a lesson without excuse.
- The instructor reserves the right to assign student makeup lessons to the graduate assistant due to her limited rescheduling availability during some weeks of the semester.

### 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 lose 30% points off of that day's lesson grade.

## 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

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**.

## 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/>

## Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://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 professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-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](mailto: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](mailto: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 cha***