

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

MUE 2450: WOODWIND SKILLS I

Flute portion
Sections PACE, REG1
Fall 2023
MW 5th Period

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Required Materials:

Guidebook for Flute Skills Instruction (2014) – Dr. Mary Birkner (available on Canvas)

Course Description: This course includes introductions to the flute and the clarinet. The class will be split into two sections, one studying flute and the other clarinet. Halfway through the semester the sections will switch instructors and instruments. MUE 2450 Woodwind Skills I is the prerequisite for enrollment in MUE 2451 Woodwind Skills II, which is offered in the spring semester.

Course Objective: This course will provide future music educators with pedagogical techniques and methods for teaching elementary and secondary flute in instrumental programs. This class will focus on developing skills such as embouchure formation, breathing, tone production, articulation, fingerings, hand position, posture, and proper care of the instrument. Performance on the flute will be required to facilitate a complete understanding of the instrument.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is mandatory and is factored into your final grade. Students are required to enter class on time. Any student missing class for any reason is responsible for getting notes and handouts from a fellow student, not from the instructor.

Habitual tardiness (more than two instances) will result in an unexcused absence. Each unexcused absence will lower your final grade by one letter (A becomes A-, A- becomes B+, etc.)

Students will receive no penalty for any excused absences. The criteria for excused absences are (1) medical reasons accompanied by a signed statement from your doctor, (2) unanticipated family emergencies accompanied by a signed statement from your parent or guardian, (3) a religious holiday observance with a one-week prior notification to instructor, or (4) military service or court-imposed legal obligations accompanied by written proof one week prior to your absence.

Materials: The following materials should be brought to class each meeting:

- Flute (to be checked out on the first day of class)
- Notebook containing course materials (handouts, articles, class notes, fingering charts, etc.)
- Cleaning cloth/handkerchief
- Pencil

Learning Objectives: Students are expected to demonstrate the following skills:
Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate proper form for flute performance (posture, finger/arm/hand placement)
- Demonstrate proper tuning techniques
- Perform assigned exercises with proper technique, tone, and intonation
- Troubleshoot basic performance problems
- Perform/understand *basic* instrument maintenance
- Describe basic criteria for instrument selection
- Create a notebook with resources pertinent to teaching beginning and intermediate level flutists.

Evaluation: The flute unit grade will be based upon the following:

- Four written quizzes – (10 points each) 40 points
- Four performance skills tests – (10 points each) 40 points
- Notebook 10 points
- Daily preparation/participation/attendance 10 points

TOTAL.....100 points

Your final grade will be an average of your scores in both the flute and clarinet sections.

Your earned numerical grade will be assigned a letter grade based on the following chart:

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.00
D-	60-62	0.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF	Below 60	0.00

Current UF Grading Policies for Assigning Grade Points:

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

Professional Standards and Academic Honor Code: 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

(<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) 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.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: 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.

Note: Due to the physical nature of performing any instrument, please be aware that it may be necessary for the instructor to touch you to demonstrate certain techniques during class. Please inform the instructor if you ever feel uncomfortable.

Online Course Evaluation Process:

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/>.

Campus Resources:
Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.

Please turn cell phones off prior to the start of class.

Be prepared with a music stand. The use of electronic devices other than a laptop (for taking notes) is prohibited. Texting is strictly prohibited.

Schedule of Topics – Fall 2023

**Material subject to change based on needs of students*

Class 1 (Aug. 23/ Oct. 18)

- Introductions.
- Distribution of syllabus, class schedule, and instruments.
- Review of expectations for course.

Assignment: Read pg. 63-72 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student”

Class 2 (Aug. 28/ Oct. 23)

- Introduce sound production on the flute and embouchure formation.
- Practice producing a sound by playing on just the headjoint.
- Introduce instruments that comprise the flute family, including transpositions and playing ranges.
- Discuss considerations for selecting flutists.
- Introduce proper assembly of the instrument and care of the flute.

Assignment: Review proper embouchure formation. Practice making a sound on just the headjoint. Read pages 72-80 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.”

Class 3 (Aug. 30/ Oct. 25)

- Review sound production on the flute and embouchure formation.
- Review producing a sound by playing on just the headjoint.
- Review proper assembly of the instrument and care of the flute.
- Review sound production and embouchure formation.
- Introduce hand positions and the fingering chart.
- Discuss basic articulation and breathing.
- Introduce fingerings for F, G, A, and B-flat.
- Introduce F Major etudes
- PowerPoint on a brief history of the flute.

Assignment: Review fingerings for F, G, A, and Bb. Practice playing the first musical etude and “Hot Cross Buns.” Read pg. 80-82 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.” Prepare for quiz #1.

Class 4 (Sept. 6/ Oct. 30)

Written Quiz #1 – during class

- Review proper assembly of the instrument, hand positions, articulation, and breathing.
- Introduce proper sitting and standing posture.
- Review fingerings for F, G, A, and B-flat.
- Introduce “Lightly Row” etude.
- Extend range for one octave F major scale by introducing fingerings for C, D, E. Introduce one-octave F major scale and F major etude, “Are You Sleeping?”

Assignment: Practice playing the F major scale and F major etude, “Are you Sleeping?” Record Playing Test #1 and submit via canvas prior to the beginning of the next class.

Class 5 (Sept. 11/Nov. 1)

Playing test #1 – F major scale and F major etude – due via Canvas before class meeting time.

- Review proper seated and standing posture.
- Use checklists to review proper posture/assembly of instrument/hand positions.
- Review basic articulation and use of embouchure and airstream to produce higher notes on the flute. Introduce fingering for E-flat. Extend playing range for a one octave B-flat major scale and the B-flat major etudes: “Long, Long Ago,” and “America”
- Have students play in both seated and standing positions.

Assignment: Review B-flat major scale, “Long, Long Ago,” and “America.” Sign up for individual help time slots.

Class 6 (Sept. 13/ Nov. 6)

- Introduce tactics for tuning flutes and adjusting intonation.
- Practice with a tuner
- Introduce alternate fingering possibilities for B-flat. Review B-flat major scale and B-flat major etudes.

Assignment: Review Bb-flat major scale and etudes. Prepare for written quiz #2. Read pages 82-87 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.”

Class 7 (Sept. 18/ Nov. 8)

Written Quiz #2 – during class

- Review intonation concepts.
- Practice tuning flutes with tuners.
- Discuss tone development, including vibrato.
- PowerPoint: Review previously learned concepts.
- Review B-flat major scale and etudes.

Assignment: Review B-flat major scale and etudes. Prepare for and record playing test #2 via Canvas prior to the beginning of the next class. Read pages 96-98 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.”

Class 8 (Sept. 20/Nov. 13)

Playing Test #2: B-flat major scale and B-flat major etude – due via Canvas by class meeting time.

- Introduce factors for instrument selection including features of beginning, intermediate, and professional model flutes.
- Introduce fingering for A-flat, low E-flat, high D and high E-flat.
- Introduce E-flat major scale and etudes.

Assignment: Review new fingerings, E-flat major scale, and etudes, “Simple Gifts,” and “Lavender’s Blue.” Read pages 87-89 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.”

Class 9 (Sept. 25/Nov. 15)

- Discuss seating of flutes in band or orchestral setting.
- Review tone development and intonation concepts.
- Review two-octave E-flat major scale and etudes.
- Introduce online resources.
- Assignment: Review E-flat major scale and etudes. Prepare for written test #3.

Class 10 (Sept. 27/Nov. 20)

Written Test #3 – during class

- Review E-flat major scale and etudes.
- Duet playing.
- Discuss blending of sound within a flute section.
- Assignment: Prepare for and submit playing test #3: E-flat major scale and etude via Canvas prior to the beginning of the next class. Read pages 98-100 in “Information for the Flute Skills Student.”

Class 11 (Oct. 4/Nov. 27)

Playing Test #3: E-flat major scale and etude – due via Canvas by class meeting time.

- Brief description of extended techniques: harmonics, whistle tones, trills, multiphonics, etc.
- Discuss advanced tonguing techniques: double, triple, flutter tongue, etc.
- Introduce fingering for D-flat. Introduce A-flat major scale and etudes, “Chester,” and “Yankee Doodle.”

Assignment: Practice A-flat major scale, and etudes. Experiment with vibrato warm-ups.

Class 12 (Oct. 9/Nov. 29)

- Piccolo basics, piccolo repertoire, selecting a piccolo player.
- Discuss important flutists and specific recordings to showcase standard repertoire.
- Talk about band method books, beginning flute method books, and flute repertoire.
- Review A major scale and etudes.
- Review Ab major scale and etudes.

Assignment: Experiment with vibrato warm-ups. Practice Ab major scale and etudes.

Class 13 (Oct. 11/Dec. 4)

- Method book review
- Review Ab major scale and etudes
- Duet playing

Assignment: Prepare for and submit Playing Test #4: A-flat major scale and etude via Canvas prior to the beginning of the next class. -Prepare for and Written Test #4. Finalize notebook.

Class 14 (Oct. 16/Dec. 6)

Playing Test #4 – due via Canvas before class meeting time.

Written Test #4 – during class

Flute Notebooks – due during class. These must be organized to be used as a future teaching resource.

- Duet Playing.
- Tie up loose ends.
- Sanitize flutes.

*** There is no final exam for the flute portion of Woodwind Skills**