

## **Clarinet Studio at the University of Florida Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Professor Mitchell Estrin  
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Please use a UFL.EDU email address when communicating with me.  
I will respond within 48 hours.

**Studio Website:** [www.arts.ufl.edu/music/clarinet](http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music/clarinet)  
**Course Numbers:** MVW 1413, 2423, 3433, 4443  
**Credit Hours:** MVW 1413 & 2423 – 2 credit hours per semester  
MVW 3433 & 4443, MVO 6460 – 3 credit hours per semester

**Academic Year:** 2024-2025  
**Office Hours:** Office Hours available by appointment.

**MATERIALS AND SUPPLY FEES:** MVW 1413, MVW 2423, MVW 3433: \$65.  
MVW 4443: \$70. MVO 6460: \$30.

### **Course Description**

Clarinet Studio at the University of Florida is designed to instill the knowledge and develop the skills necessary to prepare the student to pursue a professional career in music. Each course is divided into three components: lessons, studio class, and clarinet ensemble. Lessons and studio class are the core components (2-3 credit hours per semester) of the course. Clarinet ensemble is an additional component of the course, and each student must register for the ensemble in order to receive credit. (Course numbers: MUN 1460 & MUN 3463 – 1 credit hour per semester).

### **Instructor's Educational Philosophy**

As a teacher, it is my responsibility to offer each student the opportunity to learn and progress in the art of music. It is my goal to help students reach their musical potential. It is my desire to impart in each student my acquired musical knowledge and a lifelong dedication towards musical excellence. It is also my desire to share my artistic achievements and professional expertise. I wish to pass on the musical knowledge and traditions that have been instilled in me during my years of study and throughout my experiences as a performer, educator, and human being. It is my intent to nurture musical and artistic growth through inspirational instruction and a structured, goal-oriented curriculum. I will endeavor to provide a supportive and positive learning environment where I can offer constructive criticism when necessary. I will adhere to the highest artistic standards and will maintain high expectations of all students regardless of their background or level of study. I will be realistic in my expectations. I will strive for open and honest communication with each student in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

### **Private Lessons**

The weekly lesson curriculum will be structured to address the fundamental and technical aspects of clarinet performance. Emphasis will be placed on learning the art of musical interpretation, with attention being paid to the historical background and stylistic nuances appropriate to the repertoire being studied. All students will be instructed in performance technique.

### **Clarinet Studio Class**

The weekly studio class is a series of masterclasses covering a wide variety of performance related and pedagogical topics. Emphasis will be placed on instruction and discussion of:

- Reed adjustment
- Solo repertoire
- Orchestral repertoire
- Chamber music repertoire
- Equipment selection
- Instrument maintenance
- Clarinet pedagogy
- Historic recordings

Student presentations can be an integral part of the class as well. Guest lecturers and performers will be invited to visit the class on a regular basis. The Clarinet Studio Class takes place on Monday during 6<sup>th</sup> period.

### **Course Outline**

The instructor will make individual repertoire assignments at the beginning of the semester. Course content will include:

- Scales
- Articulation exercises
- Etudes and studies
- Orchestral repertoire
- Chamber music
- Transposition studies
- Solo repertoire
- Reed selection and adjustment
- Audition preparation
- Coping with performance anxiety

Particular attention will be paid to instruction of practice technique and instituting strategies for overcoming instrumental deficiencies and difficulties. Each student is expected to work diligently in preparation for the weekly studio lesson.

### **Course Objectives**

The primary objectives of the Clarinet Studio curriculum will be to strengthen and enhance the fundamental and technical musical skills of each student and to explore and refine the art of musical interpretation. Students are encouraged to develop their musicianship through listening to, researching, reading, and performing all styles of

music. Emphasis will also be directed towards developing a working knowledge of the standard and contemporary clarinet literature, including historical significance, form, and style. Students are encouraged to always listen critically to themselves in order to gain independence in musical and technical problem solving and to consistently improve their performance.

### **Instructor's Expectations**

Each student is required to practice daily and learn all assigned materials for the weekly lesson. This means daily structured practice sessions. Each student is expected to work diligently towards a mastery of all the scales and arpeggios including:

- Major
- Minor
- Chromatic
- Wholetone
- Pentatonic
- Intervals
- Dominant sevenths
- Diminished sevenths
- Others as assigned by the instructor

**All students are expected to warm-up *before* their lesson.** Performance repertory should be learned well in advance of scheduled concert dates. All course materials required and/or assigned by the instructor are expected to be purchased in a timely manner. Instruments are expected to be maintained properly and in excellent mechanical condition. The instructor also expects a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards the course and its related activities. All students in the Clarinet Studio are expected to be supportive, respectful, and helpful to other members of the studio.

All instruments (and their cases), mouthpieces, music, and related equipment borrowed from the Clarinet Studio or School of Music are to be treated with appropriate care and respect. By borrowing said items, the student accepts full financial responsibility should the item be lost, stolen, or damaged. ***Studio instruments are never to be loaned to another student or taken off campus without the permission of Professor Estrin.*** Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of sign-out privileges.

### **Grading Procedure**

There are six grading components that will be taken into account:

- 1) 20% of the final grade comes from quality of *Lesson Preparation*
- 2) 20% of the final grade comes from quality of *Lesson Performance*
- 3) 20% of the final grade comes from the *Jury Grade*  
(average of grades given by faculty)
- 4) 20% of the final grade comes from *Studio/Area/Convocation Performance*
- 5) 10% of the final grade comes from quality and level of *Class Participation*
- 6) 10% of the final grade comes from *Attendance Record*  
(based on adherence to the attendance/tardiness policy)

## Grading Scale

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	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF	Below 60	0.00

Each course component will be graded independently. The grades awarded by the instructor for each of the six components will be added together and the total earned grade average will dictate the final grade.

Extra credit can be earned with approval from the instructor. Additional credit can be awarded for research projects, performing on student recitals and/or masterclasses, performing on auxiliary instruments, distinguished accomplishments, special projects undertaken, and service to the Clarinet Studio.

For information on current UF grading policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

### **Attendance/Tardiness Policy**

Attendance will be taken at **ALL** studio activities. *Students are required to attend all lessons, studio classes, studio recitals, and woodwind area recitals. Additionally, all students are required to attend any school concert or convocation where a member of the clarinet studio or guest artist is performing.* Each unexcused absence will result in a deduction of one letter grade from the attendance component of the final grade. If you are unable to attend a lesson, studio class, clarinet studio recital, woodwind area recital, school concert, or convocation, you must notify the instructor in person or by email at least 24 hours before the scheduled activity. Failure to do so will result in a one letter grade deduction. Lessons missed due to an unexcused absence will not be made up. The only exceptions to this policy will be due to an emergency or other extreme extenuating circumstance and will be at the sole discretion of the instructor. Tardiness of more than ten minutes will result in a half-letter grade deduction from the attendance component of the final grade.

### **Juries**

All students enrolled in the clarinet studio are required to perform a jury for the Woodwind Area faculty at the end of each semester of study. The jury will consist of a ten-minute prepared program. This program will include a *minimum* of two contrasting repertoire pieces, and a combination of etudes and/or orchestral excerpts which have been studied during the current semester and approved by the studio teacher. Each student will present the jury with three copies of their music and a printed program, which will include the titles of the selections to be performed, the names of the composers and their dates. The student will perform the selections in program order; however, the faculty may request the other selections listed on the program at any time during the performance. Additional requirements will be added for the Pre-Professional Jury and for recital approval juries. Please consult with the instructor or the School of Music Student Handbook for further information.

### **Recital Performances**

All students in the Clarinet Studio are required to perform in a minimum of one student recital each semester. This includes Convocation Recitals, Woodwind Area Recitals, and Studio Class Recitals. Assignments will be made at the beginning of the semester by the instructor as to which recital category a student will perform in and the repertoire to be performed. *It is the student's responsibility to find an accompanist (at their own expense) and to schedule adequate rehearsal time.* Lessons with accompaniment should take place a *minimum of twice* before the recital.

Solo recitals are required of music majors as follows:

- ❖ Junior: Performance Majors and Music Education Majors
- ❖ Senior: Performance Majors and Music Education Majors/Music in Combination Majors who are seeking a Certificate in Performance
- ❖ All second-year graduate students.

NOTE: Written program notes are required for all solo recitals.

### **Large Ensemble Participation**

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

### **Studio Website**

The University of Florida Clarinet Studio Website is designed as an educational forum and communication tool. Students are encouraged to contribute their ideas and creativity to the site. The instructor will consider any relevant materials for inclusion on the site. All students are invited to share in the responsibilities of maintaining the website. The site will be updated as necessary. <http://arts.ufl.edu/sites/clarinet-studio/welcome/>

### **Studio Listserv**

The University of Florida Clarinet Studio maintains a listserv for informational exchange between Professor Estrin and members of the studio. The listserv is available strictly for studio members to communicate studio business and other pertinent information. All

users are required to adhere to acceptable codes of conduct, or they will be removed at the sole discretion of the instructor. The listserv address is: [CLARSTUDIO-L@lists.ufl.edu](mailto:CLARSTUDIO-L@lists.ufl.edu)

### **Required Materials**

C. Baermann - Method for Clarinet, Third Division (David Hite or Carl Fischer edition)  
C. Rose – 40 Etudes for Clarinet, Books 1&2 (Carl Fischer edition)  
R. Kell – 17 Staccato Studies (International edition)  
N. Heim – The Development of the Altissimo Register for Clarinet (Kendor Music)  
P. Hadcock - The Working Clarinetist (Roncorp)  
R. McGinnis - Orchestral Studies, Volumes 1&2 (International edition)  
C. Ammer – The A to Z of Foreign Musical Terms (ECS Publishing)  
Solo repertoire (as assigned)  
Metronome  
Tuner  
Jeweler’s Screwdriver Set

### **Reed Supplies:**

- Reed Clipper (Cordier or Vandoren)
- Glass Plaque
- Reed Knife (Double hollow ground)
- Reed Rush
- Wet/Dry Sandpaper (grades 320, 400 & 600)

### **Additional Suggested Materials**

C. Rose – 32 Etudes for Clarinet (Carl Fischer edition)  
R. Stark – Practical Staccato School, Part III (Anton J. Benjamin, IMSLP)  
D. Bonade – A Clarinetist’s Compendium (Leblanc Educational Series)  
K. Opperman – Handbook for Making and Adjusting Single Reeds (Chappell)  
J. Brymer – Clarinet (Schirmer Books)  
T. Ridenour – Clarinet Fingerings: A Comprehensive Guide for the Performer and Educator (Leblanc Educational Publications)

Other excellent reading, research, and listening materials are available in the Clarinet Studio and Fine Arts Library.

### **Academic Honesty**

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click here to read the Conduct Code: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

### **Students Requesting Accommodations Due to Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. Use this link to get started with the Disability Resource Center. <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>

### **Campus Resources**

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto: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.

### **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/>.

**In-class recording:** Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an

educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Policy Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

**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 through email of any changes.