Iowa State University  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Music and Theater  

**Syllabus: Woodwind Methods MUSIC 351 (clarinet)**  
Music Hall 125, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 2:10–3:00pm  

**Instructor:** Dr. Gregory Oakes  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Music Hall 215  
goakes@iastate.edu  

**Course Description**  
This course is an introduction to clarinet, saxophone, and flute for students in the instrumental education program. The goal of the course is to provide the information necessary for students to give useful and meaningful advice to beginning woodwind instrumentalists. Students will learn to perform at a rudimentary level on all instruments. This portion of the course covers clarinet pedagogy and performance.  

**Supplies**  
- *Rubank Elementary Method*, Himie Voxman, ed., available at Rieman Music or through Eble Music (www.eble.com)  
- Reeds—no fewer than 2 working reeds at all times. All reeds must be in good playing condition without chips or splits. You can find reeds at Rieman Music.  
  - If you are not a wind player, get Vandoren size 2 reeds  
  - If you are a wind player but not familiar with reeds, get Vandoren size 2½ reeds  
  - If you are already somewhat familiar with playing single reeds, get Vandoren size 3 reeds  
- Instrument in good working condition, checked out to you on the first day of class  
- Three-ring binder to hold class handouts.  

**Assessment**  
Final grades for the clarinet portion of the class will consist of
20% class performance—a combination of attendance and participation in classroom discussion. Every class for which you attend and participate, you will receive 100% for that day. Every unexcused absence counts as a 0% for that day. In cases of illness, students must provide a doctor’s note to be excused. For any other absence, make arrangements in advance in order to request an excuse. No after-the-fact excuses will be granted. This portion of the grade is the easiest to do perfectly!

25% teaching exam—each student will teach a mock lesson on the clarinet. Knowledge of proper pedagogy and ability to communicate are key. Students will diagnose and recommending solutions for the most common issues in clarinet playing based on the topics and strategies discussed in class.

20% end of section playing exam—in the performance section, the student will play two easy selections plus major and chromatic scales.

20% end of section written exam—the written section will include questions concerning fingerings, articulations, beginning repertory, typical issues, and the care and repair of the clarinet.

15% notebook—collection of all the handouts from the class and notes taken during the clarinet portion of the class.

The following percentage scale will determine grades for the class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93%–100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%–92%</td>
<td>A−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87%–89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83%–86%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%–82%</td>
<td>B−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77%–79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73%–76%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%–72%</td>
<td>C−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67%–69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%–66%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%–62%</td>
<td>D−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0%–59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the clarinet portion of the course, students will demonstrate the skills (e.g. tone production, fingering, diagnostics) necessary to successfully identify and correct the most common issues for clarinetists. Students will
demonstrate their achievement at a teaching exam, a playing exam, and a final written exam at the end of the six-week clarinet portion.

ADA Statement
Please address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form from the Student Disability Resource (SDR) office (phone 515-294-7220). SDR is located on the main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076

Schedule
1.12.2015  Instrument check out, syllabus review, instrument assembly
1.14.2015  Breathing, embouchure, oral cavity, chalumeau register
1.16.2015  No Class (Des Moines Symphony concert)
1.19.2015  No Class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
1.21.2015  Articulation, hand position, side keys, A & G# key, G major, Bb major
1.23.2015  Lower pinky keys, chromatic scale to low E, F major, E major
1.26.2015  Reed issues and adjustment, A major, Ab major
1.28.2015  Clarion register, D major, B major
1.30.2015  Equipment issues, Chromatic scale, Eb major, C major
2.2.2015   Teaching Exam
2.4.2015   Teaching Exam (continued)
2.6.2015   No Class (Cyclone Honor Band)
2.9.2015   Altissimo register, Db major, F# major
2.11.2015  Repair basics
2.13.2015  Selecting equipment for advancing clarinetists, Harmony clarinets
2.16.2015  Review
2.18.2015  Playing Exam
2.20.2015  Written Exam
2.23.2015  First day of saxophone portion of course