Course Description:
Double Reed Techniques is an introductory course to bassoon and oboe for students in the instrumental education program. The goal of the course is to provide the information necessary for students to give meaningful advice to beginning double reed instrumentalists. Students will learn to perform at a rudimentary level on oboe and bassoon. This section of the course covers bassoon pedagogy and performance.

Attendance:
Attendance is mandatory, each unexcused absence will lower your grade one full letter grade, and three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. In case of illness, students must provide a doctor’s note to be excused. For excused absences, make arrangements in advance to request an excuse.

Course Grades:
Class Performance/Daily Participation  40%
Binder  25%
Proficiency in Scales  15%
Final  15%
Required Materials  5%

Class Performance/Daily Participation:
Every student will be asked to participate and perform during scheduled class times. Every class for which you attend and participate, you will receive 100% for that day. In addition to scales, this course will cover selections from the Rubank Elementary Method for Bassoon book. Students will have time at the beginning of class to soak reeds and assemble instruments.

Binder:
Reference materials concerning bassoon performance and practice will be handed out during class. It is the responsibility of each student to put these materials in a three ring binder. Binders will be graded and returned towards the end of the semester.

Proficiency in Scales:
Students will be asked to perform major scales during class, either one octave or two octaves, depending on the scale. In this course, fingerings from low B flat to tenor F will be covered. Bassoon fingerings are complicated, so plenty of class time will be spent working on these scales.

Final:
A written exam is scheduled for the final day of class. The final exam will cover fingerings and problematic issues related to the bassoon. Test materials will be covered in class, and the final will be an open note test.
Required Materials:
1. Bassoon - to be checked out on the first day of classes
2. Reed - I will sell reeds for $13 and will replace damaged reeds unless people are getting careless with them.
3. Container for soaking reeds
4. Three ring binder for handouts

Schedule:
Every week, the assignment will be to review the material we cover in class so each student is capable of playing the assignment the following class period.

Aug 20, 2012 – review syllabus, contact information, check out instruments, instrument assembly

Aug 27 – playing position, embouchure, breath support/strong air, fingering chart, C scale and F scale (1 octave)

Sep 3 – No Class, Labor Day

Sep 10 – whisper key, embouchure flexibility, B flat scale (1 octave)

Sep 17 – tonguing, half hole, pinky finger on G, C scale and F scale (2 octaves)

Sep 24 – tenor notes, E flat scale

Oct 1 – naming thumb keys, B flat scale (2 octaves) and G scale

Oct 8 – wire chart, D scale

Oct 15 – wind playing, A flat scale

Oct 22 – middle school/high school solos, A scale

Oct 29 – vibrato, D flat scale

Nov 5 – online resources, turn in binder next week, E scale

Nov 12 – long tones/scale sheet, turn in binder, B scale and Chromatic scale

Nov 19 – No Class, Thanksgiving Break

Nov 26 – review for final, F sharp scale

Dec 3 – Final, return instruments