ISU Saxophone Studio Syllabus 2007-08

SEMINAR: We meet every Tuesday @ 1:10 in my office, room 255. Refer to the semester overview for scheduled activities. You are required to attend and participate in saxophone seminar. You are held responsible for all material discussed and assigned for seminar. Your participation and attendance will be considered in your grade.

GENERAL RECITALS: Attendance is required at all General Recitals. You must speak to me before a General Recital if you are unable to attend. Be sure to sign in for each General Recital you attend. Unexcused absences will impact your applied lesson grade.

RECITAL ATTENDANCE: You are expected to submit 12 recital reviews via email per semester. Provide a brief and thorough report (1-2 paragraphs) about a musical event you attended. All ISU Music Department events are eligible for review. Ask me if you have questions about an event’s eligibility before you proceed with the review. Reports submitted more than one week after the event has occurred will not be accepted. The completion and quality of your reviews will also affect your applied lesson grade.

JURIES: Juries will be held during the final week of the semester. All students are expected to play a jury for the woodwind division, with the exception of those who have played a full solo recital or a continuation exam. You will play a solo and/or etude, technique building exercises, and sight-reading. Your performance on the final jury is obviously a component of your applied lesson grade.

PERFORMANCE: You are expected to play classical saxophone in at least one ensemble every semester. That may include Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and/or Chamber Ensembles. Expect to perform on at least one General Recital, an off-campus service, and woodwind divisionals. You are required to perform on all saxophone studio recitals. You are responsible for securing your own chamber partner and accompanist, as well as scheduling outside rehearsals. You must own all solos and method books from which you will perform. Your instrument must be in acceptable playing condition for all lessons and performances. Both are expected expenditures that will prove beneficial now and in the future. Let me know if these professional investments become a financial burden.
LESSONS: Applied Lessons are 50 minutes in length. Be ready to play at your lesson time. Bring a notebook to your lesson, so I can write notes and view your weekly practice log. Bring your music to your lesson. Bring reeds and a neckstrap to your lesson. Bring a positive attitude to your lesson. I will work with you to develop a personalized approach to your lesson. I do expect you to play and study the material that I assign. I will keep a weekly journal of your assignments, and will give a weekly lesson grade. Grading will include all aforementioned considerations, as well as progress and effort as perceived by the instructor. You are encouraged to stay informed about your good standing in the studio. You may be expected to purchase supporting materials that will benefit you as a saxophonist, so please be prepared to purchase these items in a timely fashion.

MAKE UP LESSONS: I will make up any lessons that I miss. If you need to miss a lesson, you must speak with me before that lesson time. An email notification about your absence will not be considered excused. You are expected to attempt to switch lesson times with someone else in the studio before requesting a rescheduled time. It is to your benefit that you attend all applied lessons. An unexcused absence will result in the applied lesson grade being lowered by a full letter grade at the end of the semester.

QUESTIONS: Feel free to speak with me about any thoughts or concerns you may have about saxophone, music, life in general. Office hours will be by appointment, and will be reserved one week in advance. Stop in anytime I have my door open. My job is to help you complete the ISU Music degree program while navigating through a challenging stretch of your life. I appreciate the opportunity to assist with that, and take that responsibility seriously.

CONTACT: Do not hesitate to contact me for whatever reason. Email mgiles@iastate.edu Phone 515.294.7773 (O) 515.231.3275 (C)