

Music 352: Double Reed Techniques, Bassoon
Kevin Judge

Course Description:

Double Reed Techniques is an introductory course to bassoon and oboe open to all students in the music 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 techniques 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 45%
Binder 30%
Final 20%
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 a variety of beginner bassoon method etudes. Students will have time at the beginning of class to soak reeds and assemble instruments.

Binder:

It is each student's responsibility to print the reference materials concerning bassoon performance and practice before class. Students will put these materials in a three ring binder, later to be graded and returned to each student before the semester final.

Final:

A written exam is scheduled for the final day of class. The final exam will cover fingering 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:

- Bassoon – to be checked out on the first day of classes
- Reed – I will sell reeds for \$15 and will replace damaged reeds unless people are getting careless with them.
- Container for soaking reeds
- Three ring binder for reference material/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.

Class 1 – Review syllabus, contact information, check out instruments, instrument assembly

Class 2 – Playing position, embouchure, breath support/strong air, fingering chart, C scale and F scale (1 octave)

Class 3 – Whisper key, embouchure flexibility, B flat scale (1 octave)

Class 4 – Naming thumb keys, B flat scale (2 octaves) and G scale

Class 5 – Tonguing, half hole, pinky finger on G, C scale and F scale

Class 6 – Tenor notes, E flat scale

Class 7 – Wire chart, D scale, pinky forward on F#

Class 8 – Wind playing, A flat scale

Class 9 – Middle school/high school solos, A scale

Class 10 – Students begin to correct playing issues, D flat scale

Class 11 – Online resources, musicandthebassoon.org, **turn in binder next week, student for next week?** E scale

Class 12 – **Turn in binder**, guest student to teach as a class, B scale and chromatic scale

Class 13 – Contrabassoon, review for final, F sharp scale

Class 14 – Final, return instruments

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this unit in double reed techniques, students will be able to demonstrate bassoon technique by performing in class and taking a test in the area.

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.