

Iowa State University

College of Arts and Sciences

Music Department

Syllabus: Studio Clarinet

MUSIC 118F, 119F, 219F, 318F, 319F, 419F

Meeting Hours: By Appointment

Instructor: Dr. Gregory Oakes

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00am & 3:00pm, Wednesdays 9:00am, and by appointment

Music Hall 215

goakes@iastate.edu

Course Description

This course is a combination of weekly, private instruction and diligent, daily practice. Students enrolled for 2 credit hours will receive 50 minutes of private instruction per week. The student will improve his/her performance on the clarinet by solidifying fundamentals, facilitating better technique, and increasing awareness of standard repertoire for the instrument.

Required Materials

- Clarinet in good repair and quality reeds in playable condition. Expect to use a box of reeds per month under average practicing and performing conditions.
- Metronome
- Tuner
- Recording equipment with a quality microphone to use for individual assessment (e.g., Computer, Smartphone, or other digital recorder)

Required Text

Printed materials covering technique, etudes, and literature as directed by the instructor to suit the individual student's needs and ability. Students must obtain the assigned materials before the next lesson following an assignment.

Course Objectives

Clarinetists will improve their instrumental and musical ability through directed, individual study. The needs of individuals vary, so the specific content and direction of study will not be identical for all students. However, all students should be able to meet the following objectives in each lesson.

1. **Scales** Play all assigned major and minor scales, with extended range, accurately and evenly.
2. **Exercises** Perform assigned technical exercises. Success will be measured by technical improvement (50%), rhythmic accuracy (25%), and intonation (25%)
3. **Etudes** Perform a new assigned etude each week. The quality of the performance is measured through technical accuracy (20%), rhythmic accuracy (20%), intonation (20%), musicality (20%), and stylistic appropriateness (20%). The first two criteria can be met through attention to the written page. Intonation can be measured with a tuner. And musicality and stylistic appropriateness are a product of considerations of idiomatic performance practice and historical tradition.
4. **Repertoire** Perform the assigned portion of a given piece of repertoire. The quality of the performance is measured through technical accuracy (20%), rhythmic accuracy (20%), intonation (20%), musicality (20%), and stylistic appropriateness (20%) as in the etudes, above.

The following rubric gives an idea of how your work is evaluated.

- 100% Complete familiarity with material; no errors or hesitation in performance
- 90% Excellent familiarity with material; occasional error that doesn't repeat on a second performance
- 80% Good familiarity with material; rare persistent errors that the student is in the process of working through
- 70% Some familiarity with material; student continues to demonstrate errors from previous lessons
- 60% Passing familiarity with material; student has difficulty getting through passages at any tempo
- 50% No familiarity with material; performance in lesson is similar to the process of learning and practicing
- 40% No familiarity with material; performance shows lack of prerequisite skills necessary to begin work on assignment
- 0% Student cannot or will not play the material

Attendance

Students are expected to arrive on time to their lessons with their instrument(s) assembled and warmed up. Students arriving more than ten minutes late to a lesson will be marked absent from that lesson. Any unexcused absence will be recorded as a failing grade for that lesson. Students may be excused in case of illness, family emergency, or School of Music events only. In any of these cases, students must still notify Dr. Oakes by phone or e-mail before their scheduled lesson time, 24 hours in advance except in cases of extreme emergency.

Students wishing to change their lesson times should first try to trade with other students before contacting the professor. Students will have the best chance at finding a suitable trade or other lesson time when they try to reschedule a week in advance.

Students must attend clarinet class, which meets on Tuesdays at 1:10pm in the clarinet studio

Communication

Students must obtain an e-mail account and check it regularly. By default, the university-assigned e-mail address will be the one used unless students notify Dr. Oakes by e-mail of the address that they wish to use. Periodic announcements will go out via e-mail, and students are responsible to know the content of those e-mails. Also, all assignments and lesson evaluations will be at www.studereo.com. Students should log in and check on these assignments at least weekly. Studereo.com will have the most current information regarding required concerts, studio announcements, etc.

Required Concerts

Students are required to attend at least twelve (12) concerts each semester. These concerts must be in the vein of classical music. Within one week of the concert, students must turn in a copy of the event program. Although most of the concerts are at the discretion of the student, certain concerts are mandatory. These include:

- Required clarinet concerts as posted on studereo.com. These concerts include all clarinet recitals and solo performances involving significant clarinet repertoire.
- In addition, students are required to attend all general recitals and divisional recitals as announced on studereo.com. Failure to attend without an excused absence will result in a grade of a 0 for that event.

Assessment

Final grades will consist of

60% Lesson Performance—A total of all the lessons as measured by the guidelines given in the “Objectives” section.

10% Concert attendance

10% Materials and Instrument—Have all assigned music by the lesson following an assignment. Students must also keep their clarinet in good repair and have a supply of quality, broken-in reeds. Students will receive a grade for each lesson. Students coming to a lesson without having fixed a previously-addressed instrument or reed issue will receive a failing grade for this portion.

20% Juries—An average of the grades from the faculty for the end-of-semester juries.

The following percentage scale will determine grades for this class:

93%–100%	A
90%–92%	A–
87%–89%	B+
83%–86%	B
80%–82%	B–
77%–79%	C+
73%–76%	C
70%–72%	C–
67%–69%	D+
63%–66%	D
60%–62%	D–
0%–59%	F

Practicing

Daily practice is essential and the single most important component of a musician’s development. The best improvement will always come from well-planned, consistent practice. Students should plan to spend their daily practice similarly to the following outline:

15-45 minutes	Warm-up
30-90 minutes	Scales and Technique
30-90 minutes	Etudes
30-90 minutes	Literature

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the term, students will demonstrate the skills (e.g. tone production, intonation, phrasing, interpretation, rhythm) necessary to perform

a proportional amount of standard literature, chosen by faculty in accordance with each student's current level of achievement. Students will demonstrate their achievement at a jury to be evaluated by faculty at the end of each term.

Disability Statement

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. All students requesting accommodations are required to meet with staff in Student Disability Resources (SDR) to establish eligibility. A Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form will be provided to eligible students. The provision of reasonable accommodations in this course will be arranged after timely delivery of the SAAR form to the instructor. Students are encouraged to deliver completed SAAR forms as early in the semester as possible. SDR, a unit in the Dean of Students Office, is located in room 1076, Student Services Building or online at www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/. Contact SDR by e-mail at disabilityresources@iastate.edu or by phone at 515.294.7220 for additional information.

Health and Public Safety

Face masks encouraged: Because of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, all students are encouraged—but not required—to wear face masks, consistent with current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Further information on the proper use of face masks is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html>.

Vaccinations encouraged: All students are encouraged to receive a vaccination against COVID-19. Multiple locations are available on campus for free, convenient vaccination. Further information is available at: <https://web.iastate.edu/safety/updates/covid19/vaccinations>.

Vaccinations may also be obtained from health care providers and pharmacies.

Physical distancing encouraged for unvaccinated individuals: Classrooms and other campus spaces are operating at normal capacities, and physical distancing by faculty, staff, students, and visitors to campus is not required. However, unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to continue to physically distance themselves from others when possible.