

Course Syllabus



Woodwind Techniques

MUSIC 351

Music Hall 102

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 2:15–3:05pm

Instructors

Dr. Gregory Oakes, clarinet

goakes@iastate.edu

<mailto:goakes@iastate.edu> Music Hall 215

Office Hours: by appointment

Michael Giles, saxophone

mgiles@iastate.edu

<mailto:mgiles@iastate.edu> Music Hall 255

Office Hours: by appointment

Dr. Sonja Giles, flute

sgiles@iastate.edu

<mailto:sgiles@iastate.edu> Music Hall 235

Office Hours: by appointment

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.

Supplies

Three-ring binder to hold class handouts for each of the three portions, clarinet, saxophone, and flute. You will check out instruments for each segment of the class and will return them at the end of each of those portions. Any loss or damage to the instruments beyond normal wear and tear will be assessed to you university bill.

Clarinet

- Instrument in good working condition, checked out to you on the first day of class
- *Rubank Elementary Method*, Nilo Hovey, ed., available at Rieman Music or through Groth Music (www.grothmusic.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

Saxophone

- Instrument in good working condition, checked out to you on the first day of the saxophone portion of the class
- *Standard of Excellence, volume 1*, Bruce Pearson (the red book) (available at Rieman Music)
- Working reeds

Flute

- Instrument in good working condition, checked out to you on the first day of the flute portion of the class.
- Phyllis Avidan Louke, Patricia George, *Flute 101: Mastering the Basics* (Order [here](http://fabulousflute.com/our-publications/flute-101-mastering-the-basics/) → [\(http://fabulousflute.com/our-publications/flute-101-mastering-the-basics/\)](http://fabulousflute.com/our-publications/flute-101-mastering-the-basics/))
- Selected articles from *The Instrumentalist* and *Flute Talk Magazine* (on Canvas)
- Frederick Westphal, *Guide to Teaching Woodwinds* (on Canvas)

Assessment

10% 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!

In addition, each of the three instruments in the course (clarinet, saxophone, and flute) constitutes 30% of the final grade. Grades for each instrument segment use the following breakdowns:

Clarinet

25% instruction exam—each student will conduct a mock lesson on the clarinet. Knowledge of the clarinet and what creates the different sounds on the instrument is the essential skill set being tested.

Students will diagnose and recommend solutions for the most common issues in clarinet playing based on the topics and strategies discussed in class.

25% end of section playing exam—in the performance section, the student will play two easy selections plus major and chromatic scales.

25% 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.

25% notebook—collection of all the handouts from the class and notes taken during the clarinet portion of the class.

Saxophone

40% daily participation—playing assignments will be made per class period, and the student is expected to be capable of playing the songs for the next class. In-class playing exams will not be rescheduled.

40% written and playing final exam

20% notebook

Flute

25% playing grade

10% comparison paper

15% teach a friend day

25% written exam

25% notebook

The following percentage scale will determine grades for the class:

94%–100% A

90%–93% A–

87%–89% B+

84%–86% B

80%–83% B–

77%–79% C+

74%–76% C

70%–73% C–

67%–69% D+

64%–66% D

60%–63% D–

0%–59% F

Learning Outcomes

By the end 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, saxophonists, and flutists. Students will demonstrate their achievement at an instruction exam, a playing exam, and a final written exam for each instrument portion of the class.

Free Expression

Iowa State University supports and upholds the First Amendment protection of [freedom of speech](https://www.studentconduct.dso.iastate.edu/know-the-code-resources/resources-for-students/harassment-and-free-speech/free-speech) (<https://www.studentconduct.dso.iastate.edu/know-the-code-resources/resources-for-students/harassment-and-free-speech/free-speech>) and the principle of [academic freedom](https://www.iowaregents.edu/plans-and-policies/board-policy-manual/39-academic-freedom) (<https://www.iowaregents.edu/plans-and-policies/board-policy-manual/39-academic-freedom>) in order to foster a learning environment where open inquiry and the vigorous debate of a diversity of ideas are encouraged. Students will not be penalized for the content or viewpoints of their speech as long as student expression in a class context is germane to the subject matter of the class and conveyed in an appropriate manner.









Academic Dishonesty

The class will follow Iowa State University's policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the [Dean of Students Office](http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html) (<http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html>).

Accessibility Statement


Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu (<http://www.sas.dso.iastate.edu>), by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu (<mailto:accessibility@iastate.edu>), or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Wed Jan 17, 2024	 Fundamentals https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662914&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3:05pm
	 Clarinet Introduction https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662901&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3pm
	 Read Westphal Clarinet Assembly https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182126	due by 2:15pm
Fri Jan 19, 2024	 Technique https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662915&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3:05pm
	 Read Westphal Clarinet Holding https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182128	due by 2:15pm
Mon Jan 22, 2024	 More Keys https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662909&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3:05pm
	 Read Westphal Clarinet Embouchure https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182127	due by 2:15pm
Wed Jan 24, 2024	 Reeds & Next Register https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662910&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3:05pm
	 Read Westphal Clarinet Intonation https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182129	due by 2:15pm
Fri Jan 26, 2024	 Student Interaction https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662902&include_contexts=course_107126	2:15pm to 3:05pm

Date	Details	Due
Mon Jan 29, 2024	 Clarinet Instruction Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182115)	due by 2:15pm
Wed Jan 31, 2024	 Clarinet Instruction Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662903&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Fri Feb 2, 2024	 No Class (Honor Band) (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662907&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Mon Feb 5, 2024	 High Register and Equipment (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662911&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Wed Feb 7, 2024	 Read Westphal Clarinet Tone and Articulation (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182130)	due by 2:15pm
Fri Feb 9, 2024	 Repair Basics (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662904&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Mon Feb 12, 2024	 Selecting equipment for advancing clarinetists (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662912&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Wed Feb 14, 2024	 Harmony Clarinets (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662905&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Fri Feb 16, 2024	 No Class (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662906&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Mon Feb 19, 2024	 Clarinet Playing Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182117)	due by 2:15pm
Wed Feb 21, 2024	 Clarinet Final Written Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182114)	due by 2:15pm

Date	Details	Due
	 Clarinet Notebook (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182116)	due by 2:15pm
Fri Feb 23, 2024	 No Class (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662900&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Mon Feb 26, 2024	 Saxophone Introduction (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662913&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:15pm to 3:05pm
Wed Feb 28, 2024	 fingerings, posture (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182134)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Mar 1, 2024	 #23 #26 #32 #37 DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182111)	due by 2:15pm
Mon Mar 4, 2024	 c major scale DUE #60, #63 (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182132)	due by 2:15pm
Wed Mar 6, 2024	 #80 #81 #82 DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182112)	due by 2:15pm
Mon Mar 18, 2024	 sawmill creek DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182135)	due by 2:15pm
Wed Mar 20, 2024	 #89 #93 #98 #108 #116 DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182113)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Mar 22, 2024	 #120 #127 #131 #133 DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182109)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 25, 2024	 #138 #154 DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182110)	due by 2:15pm
Wed Mar 27, 2024	 chromatic scale full range, one direction DUE (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182133)	due by 2:15pm
Fri Mar 29, 2024	 saxophone written exam (in-class) DUE	due by 2:15pm

Date	Details	Due
	(https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182136)	
Mon Apr 1, 2024	 Flute Introduction (https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=662908&include_contexts=course_107126)	2:10pm to 3pm
Tue Apr 9, 2024	 Flute Day 1: April 5 (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182118)	due by 11:59pm
	 Flute Day 2: April 7 -- virtual day! (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182119)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 12, 2024	 Flute Techniques --- Week of April 13th (assignment of notes 'due' for 4/17 class) (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182123)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 21, 2024	 Flute Video #2 (2nd graded video) (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182125)	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 3, 2024	 Flute Final Written Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182120)	due by 11:59pm
	 Flute Techniques: Week 3 (goals and notebook entry prompts) (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182124)	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 6, 2024	 Flute Notebook (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182121)	due by 5pm
Wed May 8, 2024	 Flute Playing Exam (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182122)	due by 2pm
	 Roll Call Attendance (https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/107126/assignments/2182131)	