



Woodwind Methods Class – MUSC 3141

MW 1-1:50

Fain Fine Arts Center, C117C

Instructor: Dr. Rafael Powell II

Midwestern State University, Fain Fine Arts Center #C117M

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Office Hours by Appointment

Course Description

Prerequisite(s): Must be a Junior, Senior, or Second Baccalaureate Student

This course is designed to prepare students to teach the fundamentals of woodwind instruments. Through the course of the semester, students will learn to produce sounds on saxophone, flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon. Furthermore, they will learn sound pedagogy to excel at teaching these instruments to young musicians.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Specific learning objectives for the course derive from the Texas SBEC Standards/Test Frameworks for EC-12 Music and the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards (EC-Grade 12). This course provides music education students with a knowledge base of the environment in which they may teach. Satisfactory completion of the course will document that students have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Develop basic performance technique on all woodwind instruments, including breathing, embouchure, voicing, articulation, fingering selection, and vibrato.
2. Develop teaching techniques and pedagogical approaches for beginning, intermediate, and advanced players in classroom and rehearsal environments.
3. Develop familiarity with commonly recommended materials, including instruments, mouthpieces, ligatures, reeds, and performers.

Required Materials:

- Pimentel, Bret (2017)- *Woodwind Basics: Core concepts for playing and teaching flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and saxophone* [PDF Available]
- *Essential Elements for Band* will be provided for each assigned instrument.
- Binder, or folder, to hold supplemental materials
- Materials for notetaking (Electronics are allowed)
- Pencils for marking music
- Reeds for clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon as instructed.

***Instruments will be checked out to you. Bring your instrument to every class and well maintained. Students are liable for any damaged instruments.**

Reed Suggestions:

- Reeds are available in the bookstore, or online at TBWinds.com
 - Students may pitch in on one box, to save money.
- Vandoren Traditional Alto Saxophone Reed, Size 2.5 or 3
- D'addario Reserve Alto Saxophone Reed, Size 3
- Vandoren Traditional Bb Clarinet Reed, Size 2.5 or 3
- D'addario Reserve Classic Bb Clarinet Reed, Size 3
- Oboe and Bassoon Reeds will be ordered as necessary.

Student Assessment:

Class Participation: 15%

Playing Assignments: 25%

Technique : 20%

Ensemble Performance: 15%

Final Performance: 25%

Assessment Breakdown:

Class Participation: Actively engage in class discussions, ask questions, and contribute insights related to woodwind instruments and techniques.

Playing Assignments: Regularly practice assigned exercises and pieces to demonstrate technical improvement and musicality. Be the beginner you want to see!

Technique Quizzes: Short quizzes assessing knowledge of fingerings, scales, and articulation techniques. Unless you are playing your primary instrument, do not expect perfection. Enjoy the beginner experience.

Ensemble Performance: Students will learn short mixed ensemble pieces, as a part of our beginner experience. These performances will take place in class and feature different students as the director. Dates TBD

Final Performance: Students will choose one beginner piece to demonstrate for the class. This will be a Grade 1 or 2 piece, chosen from a Festival Solo book. Students are allowed to choose their instrument for this performance.

A - 100-90%

B - 89-80%

C - 79-70%

D - 69-60%

F - 59-0%

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in Woodwind Methods is crucial for development and success, much like your beginning band class. However, I understand that unexpected circumstances can arise. Therefore, a flexible attendance policy is in place to accommodate such situations while ensuring that your progress is not hindered. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

Regular Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. Students receive five points for in-class participation. Participation includes class discussions and demonstrations. Students are expected to have all materials necessary for class.

Absences: If you anticipate an absence due to illness, personal reasons, or other emergencies, please inform me via email at least 24 hours in advance, if possible. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, notify me as soon as you can.

Make-up Opportunities: Missed playing assignments must be submitted via video recording. Recordings must be clear, include a metronome, and an accurate foot tap. Please consult your peers for notes, missed handouts will be pinned on my bulletin board.

*Excessive absences will affect your class participation grade. Please be communicative.

Communication:

I can most easily be reached via email: Rafael.Powell@msutexas.edu. You may email me at anytime and expect a response with in 48 hours, if not sooner. Please feel free to contact me regarding lesson assignments, practice questions, or anything that you might need help with. You may include audio, or video, as necessary. In case of an emergency, my cell phone may be used, but only as a last resort.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to Disability Support Services.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: Campus Carry Rules and Policies

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the [Midwestern State University MSU Catalog](#).

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.