

M215
Woodwind-Elementary Instruction
Spring 2008

Professor: Dr. Todd Rewoldt

Room: Music & Dance - 250

Time: T, R: 2-2.50 PM

Office Hours: T, R,: 1-1:50 PM; And, by appointment.

Required Texts:

Frederick W. Westphal, *Guide to Teaching Woodwinds* (5th ed.).

Todd Rewoldt, *Woodwind Anthology*. Montezuma Publishing.

Course Description: M215 is designed to prepare the aspiring music educator with the skills and knowledge necessary to perform and instruct on the various woodwind instruments. Each student will have the opportunity to study and perform on three of the possible five woodwinds. Each session will include lecture/demonstration topics such as: proper assembly, maintenance, tone production, vibrato, tonguing, dynamics, etc. Since you are learning more than one instrument, you will need reeds for clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon.

Course Requirements: You are expected to practice each instrument! You will gain “real-life” experience through performances of scale studies, technical drills, and chorale-based compositions. A large percentage of understanding the intricacies of the woodwind family is based upon realizing, analyzing, and overcoming the same difficulties each beginning student must face. I will be grading your preparation and playing each class meeting.

In particular, you will be graded on:

1. Your ability to perform the daily assignments.
2. Performance of major scales: 3#’s, 3b’s, and the chromatic scale (1 δ^{va}).
3. Teaching of a “first lesson.”
4. A Final Oral Exam

Student Outcomes: At the conclusion of this semester, each student will be able to:

1. Assemble 3 of 5 woodwind instruments.
2. Create a good tone.
3. Teach a “first lesson” to another student.
4. Identify each part of every woodwind instrument.
5. Create diaphragm and jaw vibrato.
6. Demonstrate the ability to tongue in various styles.
7. Identify and correct intonation issues.
8. Perform musically within an ensemble and as soloist.
9. Perform with proper hand position, posture, and embouchure.
10. Identify various methods and materials used for the beginning woodwind student.

Course Outline: The following outline is based on a repeating five-week program. Every five weeks (approx.) you will be required to study another instrument from the woodwind family. Every student (unless you possess prior playing ability) will learn a single reed (clarinet or saxophone), double reed (bassoon or oboe), and flute.

- Weeks 1-2: Introduction to course. Demonstration of instrument assembly. Description of “first lesson.” Formation of the embouchure and proper hand position. Creation of tone. Reeds, Mouthpieces, instrument brands, beginning methods and materials.
- Week 3: Tonguing, creation of vibrato, intonation, and “Anthology” performances.
- Week 4: Trill fingerings, alternate fingerings, extreme registers (low & high) continuation of “Anthology” performances.
- Week 5: “First lesson” presentations. Scale Exams.

Final Oral Exam: The Final Oral Exam will last approximately 15 minutes with the professor. During this exam, you will be asked to problem-solve various issues that are particular to performing the various woodwind instruments, discuss methods for learning various techniques (ex. how does someone learn to tongue faster?), provide options for instrument brands, reeds, method books, and basic solo festival music.

Grading:

First Lesson: 20%

Scales: 10%

Daily preparation, participation, and performance: 60%

Final Oral Exam: 10%

95-100 = A

84-86 = B

74-76 = C

64-66 = D

90-94 = A-

80-83 = B-

70-73 = C-

60-63 = D-

87-89 = B+

77-79 = C+

67-69 = D+

<60 = F

Local Resources for Reeds, Sheet Music, Repairs, etc:

Saxophonists and Clarinetists should purchase at least **2** reeds. Reeds should be *Rico* or *La Voz* Brand, strength 2.5 or Medium. No plastic reeds.

Oboists and Bassoonists are encouraged to buy one medium to medium-soft reed (*Jones* is a good brand). If a plastic reed is available, purchase one. It will last for years.

Local Music Stores

Alan’s Music Center: 8510 La Mesa Blvd. (619) 466.1938

The Windsmith: 2867 University Ave (619) 220.8984

King’s Music: 3592 Main St., Lemon Grove (619) 465.9022

This syllabus is subject to change