



Woodwind Techniques—MUS 2124 Fall 2022

Professor: Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, D.M.A.

Email: mary.thompson@sulross.edu; *secondary email:* methompson12@gmail.com

Office: FAB 202

Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-2:50 p.m., Web-delivered via Blackboard Collaborate

Office Hours: *Email the instructor to schedule virtual meetings at a mutually convenient time.

Course Description

This course is class instruction for music majors and minors who have not had previous study, and for other interested students. Emphasis is on the ability to play and compose for the instruments studied: flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and saxophone.

Student Learning Outcomes for Music Majors:

SLO 1: All students will demonstrate the ability to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance.

SLO 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to research and prepare appropriate program notes.

SLO 3: All students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique a musical performance.

This course contributes to meeting these cumulative SLOs.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Use basic terminology to describe the parts of all of the woodwind instruments covered as well as the most common function of each instrument in ensembles. (*Knowledge*)
- 2) Play basic songs or pieces on each of the instruments. (*Skills, Attitudes or dispositions*)
- 3) Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the pedagogy available for each instrument. (*Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes or dispositions*)
- 4) Teach the fundamentals of flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and saxophone to beginning level students. (*Skills, Attitudes or dispositions*)
- 5) Demonstrate basic understanding of the construction and repair of common issues for woodwind instruments and reeds. (*Skills, Attitudes or dispositions*)

Major Assignments with Matched SLOs

- Students will complete four playing tests during the semester, one for each instrument covered in the course, and double reeds together. (1,2)
- Students will complete three written tests on the instruments studied. Material will include textbook information, class notes, and any additional information provided by the instructor in class. (1,3,5)
- Two writing assignments will be assigned during the course. One will be a journal article review about woodwind instruments (or one specific woodwind instrument) OR woodwind pedagogy. The second writing assignment will be a concert report of a woodwind recital. (1,3,5)
- The final project for the course will give the students an opportunity to construct a lesson plan and then teach another student that lesson on a woodwind instrument of their choice. (4)

Marketable Skills

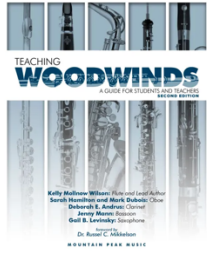
The music student graduating with a BM in music (instrumental or vocal performance; instrumental or vocal education; or music business) should have the following Marketable Skills:

1. *Ability to collaborate and network with others to achieve a shared goal, utilizing problem solving, flexibility and improvisation, and consideration of others' thoughts and creative processes.
2. *Proficiency in public speaking and writing about music, especially in teaching basic musical concepts to all ages and incorporating technology for presentation and production.
3. *Ability to prepare and perform a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and diverse repertoire, as an individual or part of an ensemble, to an audience, advocating for the arts through engaging with and serving the community.
4. Experience using problem solving skills and abstract thinking to analyze compositions and examine their aesthetic through musical and extra-musical concepts, such as historical context and text setting.
5. Ability to create and disseminate basic marketing and public relations materials, as well as resumes, websites, and digital portfolios.

*Marketable Skills specifically addressed by this course indicated with **

Required Class Materials

- Teaching Woodwinds: A Guide for Students and Teachers Authors: Wilson, Hamilton, Dubois, Andrus, Mann and Levinsky
ISBN 978-1-935510-71-0



- Hard copy or PDF versions of the text can be purchased online through the publisher:
<https://www.mountainpeakmusic.com/teaching-woodwinds-a-guide-for-students-and-teachers-hard-copy-version/>
- 1 Clarinet Reed (2.5); 1 Alto Saxophone Reed (2.5); 1 Oboe Reed; 1 Bassoon Reed (*these can be purchased through SRSU, or you can purchase them on your own*)
- School-issued flute/clarinet/saxophone/oboe/bassoon

**Optional text:* Wind Talk: A Practical Guide to Teaching and Understanding Woodwind Instruments
Authors: Ely and Van Deuren
ISBN: 9780195329254

Class Attendance and Participation

-Excused absences:

- As this course must cover five instruments as thoroughly as possible in one semester, attendance is mandatory. Absences will be excused for medical emergencies or serious personal conflicts only **but immediate communication with the professor about this is required.**
- Tests missed during an excused absence may be made up for full credit **within one week** of the student's return to class. (*No make-up tests will be given without a doctor's note or professor's prior approval.*)

- Assignments missed during an excused absence may be turned in **within one week** of the student's return to class for full credit. You may still turn in an assignment after this period, but one letter grade will be automatically taken off for each week it is late.

-Unexcused absences:

- Students with **four** unexcused absences will be dropped from the class.
- Tests missed during an unexcused absence may **not** be made up.
- Assignments missed during an unexcused absence may be turned in **within one week** of the due date for full credit. You may still turn in an assignment after this period, but one letter grade will be automatically taken off for each week it is late.

Grading Procedures

Your final grade will be determined by the following formula:

1. Playing tests 40%
2. Written tests 30%
3. Article and concert reviews 20%
4. Final Project 10%

Grading Scale

A=90-100 B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69 F=below 60

The instructor will provide detailed information and due dates for assignments and playing/written tests on a separate handout.

Professional Communication Policy

- All communication with me should be done primarily through email, phone, or virtual meetings.
- You are expected to check your email and the course Blackboard page on a **regular basis**.

SRSU Library Services

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

SRSU Disability Services

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with

documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email mschwartz@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

Tentative Weekly Course Outline (Subject to change)

**Note:* We will have the opportunity to have in-person class meetings this semester in addition to virtual, so please be sure to write those dates in your calendar. I will always send out reminders before in-person classes. Additionally, we will not plan to meet as a class on days where there are tests, but you will be assigned a time to log on and complete your test during the regular class meeting time. Those dates and assigned times will be given out at least one class meeting in advance.

1. Week of August 22

Syllabus and introduction to course; Flute

2. Week of August 29

Flute; *No class meeting 7/30*

3. Week of September 5

In person class meetings, location TBA-Flute

4. Week of September 12

Playing Test 1-Flute; Clarinet

5. Week of September 19

Clarinet

6. Week of September 26

In person class meetings, location TBA—Oboe, Guest instructor, Dr. Alegría

7. Week of October 3

Clarinet/Oboe; Playing Test 2-Clarinet or Oboe;

8. Week of October 10

Clarinet/Oboe; Playing Test 3-Clarinet or Oboe; Written Test 1

9. Week of October 17

Saxophone

10. Week of October 24

Saxophone

11. Week of October 31

Saxophone; **Playing Test 4-Saxophone; Article Review Due**

12. Week of November 7

Bassoon

13. Week of November 14
Bassoon

14. Week of November 21
Concert Report Due; *No class 11/24, Thanksgiving Break*

15. Week of November 28
Wrap-Up; **Written Test 3 (11/29, Last Class Meeting)**

16. Monday, December 5, 12:30-2:30 p.m.: **Final Exam-Teaching Woodwind Lesson**