MUSC 3601-Woodwind Techniques & Materials
Spring 2016
Mondays, 5:30-8:00PM
Location: TBD
Instructor: Philip Barnard
Email: pbarnard@westga.edu

Course Description
Woodwind Techniques and Materials will provide a foundation of performance and pedagogical information concerning the woodwind family. The five major woodwind instruments—flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and saxophone—will be examined in terms of assembly, hand and body position, tone quality, breathing, embouchure, fingerings, articulation, and repair/maintenance. Additional topics will include teaching beginning players, method books, and solo/ensemble literature.

Four-Week Rotation
You will select a primary concentration of three woodwind instruments for the semester, studying each of these instruments for approximately four weeks. You will be required to complete a playing exam at the end of each four-week period. Each exam is worth 25% of your final grade. Non-woodwind players will study flute, clarinet (with a secondary emphasis on saxophone), and oboe or bassoon (with a secondary emphasis on the double reed instrument not included in the primary concentration). Woodwind majors will select a primary concentration that does not include their major instrument.

Course Materials
1. Book provided. Bring your book to every class.

2. Supplemental materials (provided)

3. Reeds as needed for clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon. Oboes, clarinets, and saxophones will come with one low quality reed per instrument. You will learn very quickly that in working with reeds you get what you pay for in terms of quality! I highly recommend that you purchase your own reeds: Vandoren for clarinet and saxophone, Jones for oboe and bassoon. Dr. Bleuel has a supply of oboe and bassoon reeds for purchase. Mr. Barnard will help you with improving the quality your reeds.
**Learning Outcomes**

In order to pass MUSC 3601, the student must demonstrate the following:

1. Appropriate embouchure, hand placement, body position, and playing techniques for the woodwind instruments (i.e., flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and saxophone)
2. Correct assembly and care of the woodwind instruments, and knowledge of the necessary accessories
3. Proficiency in playing major, minor, and chromatic scales as assigned by the instructor
4. Appropriate performance technique on assigned solos and ensemble materials
5. Ability to complete fingering charts for at least two of the woodwind instruments
6. Knowledge and understanding of the acoustical properties of the various woodwind instruments
7. Visual and aural diagnostic skills that will result in the application of the appropriate instructional technique
8. Knowledge of selected materials, literature, and techniques for teaching and learning woodwind instruments
9. Knowledge of the history of the woodwind instruments

**Instruments**

The Department of Music is able to provide this course with flutes, oboes, clarinets, and alto saxophones through an agreement with Music and Arts. Bassoon(s) will be provided by the Department of Music. We should be able to maintain a balanced instrumentation throughout the semester using these instruments. You will be required to fill out a legally binding instrument contract for each instrument you check out and abide by the conditions of the contract.

**Attendance Policy**

MUSC 3601 is your opportunity to attain a working knowledge of the woodwind family. Developing an understanding of the woodwinds is a crucial step in becoming a competent music educator, performer, or composer. **Attendance will be essential for your successful completion of the course.** You are allowed (but not encouraged to take) **one absence** for the semester. After the second absence your semester grade will be lowered by **one full letter**. After the third absence you will receive an **automatic “F”** for the semester. Absences may be excused and not count toward a student’s total absences for the semester in **extreme conditions** (serious illness, death in family, auto accident, etc.). If a student wishes to have an absence excused she/he must (1) contact the instructor by email **within 48 hours of the absence** and (2) present documentation that justifies the absence **within one week of the absence**. If this procedure is not followed the absence will count toward the student’s total absences for the semester. Absences will be considered excused **at the instructor’s discretion**. Following the procedures listed above does not guarantee that an absence will be excused. The instructor will notify the student by email within one week of receiving documentation if an absence will be excused or not. **Class will begin promptly at 5:30 each Monday—please be punctual!** Students coming to class after the door has been closed will be considered late (no exceptions). **Each late arrival will be counted as 1/2 absence, so two late arrivals will be the equivalent of one absence, four late arrivals will be the equivalent of two absences,**
Students arriving more than 20 minutes late will be assessed a full absence. Students who attend class but do not bring instruments (including reeds!) to class will receive an absence.

**Practice Expectations**
During most class periods you will be assigned excerpts to prepare for the next class meeting. I may ask you to demonstrate for the class at any time so please come to class prepared and ready to go. I expect that you will develop a practice routine for the instruments you study in MUSC 3601 that is similar to the routine you use for your principal instrument. Your daily practice should include a balance of tone development exercises, technical development exercises and scales, and assigned music. All practice should be done with a tuner and a metronome!

**Playing Quizzes and Presentations**
Weekly quizzes and presentations/demonstrations will be given throughout the semester covering material discussed/presented in class.

**Playing Exams/Conferences**
Playing exams will be held at the conclusion of each four-week period of study, and will consist of assigned excerpts to be performed. All playing exam materials (and required fingerings) will be distributed during class. At the conclusion of each playing exam we will have a short conference to go over your grades, absences, and overall class performance.

**Semester Grade**
Your semester grade will be determined as follows:
- Playing Exam 1 (September 24) 25%
- Playing Exam 2 (October 29) 25%
- Playing Exam 3 (December 3) 25%
- Quizzes 25%
MUSC 3601
Tentative Schedule Fall 2014

ROTATION 1

Monday, January 11
1. Overview of syllabus
2. Instrument checkout and completion of forms
3. Basic assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure
4. Breathing
5. Foundations of tonguing and articulation with articulation exercises using the “small piece” from each instrument
6. Introduction of hand positions

January 18
No class meeting, Labor Day Holiday

January 25
1. Quiz #1 Describe the aspects of embouchure and articulation.
2. Review assembly, posture, breathing, hand position, and embouchure
3. Review check exercises
4. Introduce octave keys and register keys
5. Review foundations of tonguing and articulation
6. Playing exercises, slurred and tongued

February 1
1. Quiz #2- Demonstrate hand positions, fingerings, and posture.
2. Review assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure,
3. Register change and Alternate Fingerings.
4. Second octave exercises (course packet)
5. Diagnostic issues and ensemble playing
6. Work in small groups on playing exam material for each instrument (course packet)

February 8
1. Quiz #3- Demonstrate instrument parts and assembly.
2. Review assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure, check exercises
3. Review parts of the instrument
4. Review playing exam material for each instrument.
5. Assign Playing Exam times

Playing Exam #1. Inspection of instrument. Turn in 1st rotation instruments.
ROTATION 2

February 15
1. No Quiz
2. Instrument checkout and completion of forms
3. Basic assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure
4. Breathing
5. Foundations of tonguing and articulation with articulation exercises using the “small piece” from each instrument
6. Introduction of hand positions

February 22
1. Quiz #4 Demonstrate basic tuning procedures
2. Review assembly, posture, breathing, hand position, and embouchure
3. Review check exercises
4. Introduce octave keys and register keys
5. Review foundations of tonguing and articulation
6. Playing exercises, slurred and tongued

February 29
1. Quiz #5 Demonstrate advanced "on the fly" tuning
2. Review assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure,
3. Register change and Alternate Fingerings.
4. Second octave exercises (course packet)
5. Diagnostic issues and ensemble playing
6. Work in small groups on playing exam material for each instrument (course packet)

March 7
1. No Quiz
2. Review assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure, check exercises
3. Review parts of the instrument
4. Review playing exam material for each instrument.
5. Assign Playing Exam times
   Playing Exam #2. Inspection of instrument. Turn in 2nd rotation instruments.

March 14
Spring Break
ROTATION 3

March 21
1. No Quiz
2. Instrument checkout and completion of forms
3. Basic assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure
4. Breathing
5. Foundations of tonguing and articulation with articulation exercises using the “small piece” from each instrument
6. Introduction of hand positions

March 28
1. Quiz #6 Demonstrate care and maintenance.
2. Review assembly, posture, breathing, hand position, and embouchure
3. Review check exercises
4. Introduce octave keys and register keys
5. Review foundations of tonguing and articulation
6. Playing exercises, slurred and tongued

April 4
NO CLASS

April 11
1. Quiz #7 DIY repair
2. Review assembly, posture, breathing, hand position, and embouchure
3. Review check exercises
4. Introduce octave keys and register keys
5. Review foundations of tonguing and articulation
6. Playing exercises, slurred and tongued

April 18
1. No Quiz
2. Review assembly, posture, hand position, embouchure, check exercises
3. Review parts of the instrument
4. Review playing exam material for each instrument.
5. Assign Playing Exam times
Playing Exam #3. Inspection of instrument. Turn in 3rd rotation instruments.

April 25
Final Exam