

Memorial University of Newfoundland

Single Reed Techniques

Course ID: Music 3232 (1 credit hour)

Term: Winter 2021, January 6 to April 13

Location: Online

Time: Fridays 12:00-12:50pm Newfoundland Time

Program: Required for credit towards BMusEd

Instructor: Kathryn Stewart krstewart@mun.ca
Home: 902-376-2018 Cell: 902-308-6907

Office Hours: WebEx or Discord Channel Tuesdays/Thursdays 4-5pm, e-mail responses within 24 hrs

Course Description: Practical study of the basic techniques for playing the clarinet and/or saxophone. Discussions will be aimed at addressing teaching strategies for these instruments in a band class context.

Required Textbooks:

Standard of Excellence – Book One: Bb Clarinet, Bruce Pearson

Standard of Excellence – Book One: Eb Alto Sax, Bruce Pearson

Handouts provided by instructor

Other Equipment for the Course:

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the School of Music has recommended against the sharing of mouthpieces and instruments at this time, therefore the purchase of a personal mouthpiece, ligature and reeds will be a requirement for this course. Yamaha 4C is the lowest cost, highest quality option for both clarinet and saxophone. An adhesive rubber mouthpiece patch is also recommended.

Reeds: Students should have at least 3 working reeds at all times, replacing broken and unworthy reeds as needed. Sizes: Rico or Vandoren brand reeds, size 2 is suitable for players who are brand new to wind playing, and 2.5 are suitable for players with some experience on other brass and woodwinds.

Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

- Instrument assembly and care
- Breathing and support
- Tone production and development
- Embouchure and articulation
- Hand position and posture

- Pitch and fingerings
- Student-appropriate equipment and repertoire

Practice Expectation: Previous cohorts of this class have agreed that a minimum of 20-30 minutes of practice, at least 4 days per week (total of approx. 2-3 Hours) is a reasonable expectation for this class. Course feedback indicates that practice journals have not been particularly beneficial to student success, therefore your progress will be assessed based on your playing growth from week to week, based on recording assignments (bi-weekly) and in-class exercises.

Grading Criteria and strategy:

Your success in this course will be based on attendance and participation, written responses, recording submissions, midterm and final playing tests and overall progress during the semester.

Evaluation:

1. 10% Post-class reflections (x8)
2. 20% Recording assignments (x3)
3. 10% Midterm playing test - 5 SOE exercises, 2 scales
4. 20% Peer teaching assignment
5. 20% Final Exam - Transposition, 5 SOE exercises, 2 scales, rote test of instrument differences and pedagogical strategies
6. 10% Attendance and Participation in class discussions
7. 10% Progress rating from beginning of course to end

Grading:

A 80– 100%
 B 65– 79%
 C 55– 64%
 D 50-54%
 F 49 and below

Accomodations:

Memorial University is committed to ensuring an environment of understanding and respect for the dignity and worth of each student and also to supporting inclusive education based on the principles of equity, accessibility and collaboration. You are invited to discuss any accommodation requests with me or directly with the Blundon Centre.

<https://www.mun.ca/student/new-student-experience/access.php>

Statement of Academic Misconduct:

It is each student's responsibility to review Memorial University's statement on academic honesty. You can find this statement in the current University Calendar under section 6.12 Academic Misconduct. Any submitted work that has not been created by you, and made specifically for this course will result in a grade of zero for the entire assignment. Further

procedures, as per the Calendar, may be initiated if deemed necessary. Please feel free to ask me in advance if you are ever unsure if you are submitting something that may be copied, even if it is from your own work for other courses.

[6.12 Academic Misconduct \(mun.ca\)](http://mun.ca)

Weekly Class Schedule:

Class:	Date:	Topic:	Assignments:	SOE Practice
Week 1	Jan 15	Welcome, Intro to Breathing for wind playing, Posture and the Body	Introductions and Review Course Syllabus/Schedule	
Week 2	Jan 22	Breathing, Embouchure, and Mouthpiece exercises	Bring a soda straw and cup of Water	Pgs 6-7
Week 3	Jan 29	Instrument Assembly, Reeds, Hand Position	Recording no.1 (6.7%)	Pgs 8-9, 11
Week 4	Feb 5	Practice Strategies and Tone development exercises		Pgs 8-12, #18-42
Week 5	Feb 12	Troubleshooting Common Equipment Problems	Recording no. 2 (6.6%) Due Feb 15, noon	Pgs 13-15 #48-57
Week 6	Feb 19	Woodwind Supply, devices, Teaching Resources	Midterm list made available	Pgs 15-18 #58-78
	Feb 26	Reading Week	No Class	
Week 7	Mar 5		Mid-term Skills Check (10%)	Pages and exercise nos. TBD
Week 8	Mar 12	Review of Breathing, Intonation, and More Practice Strategies	Peer Teaching Assignment made available	Pgs 39-40
Week 9	Mar 19	Observing, diagnosing, and coaching weaknesses in beginner students	Recording no. 3 (6.7%) Due Mar 22, noon	Pages and exercise nos. TBD
Week 10	Mar 26	Articulation and Transposition	Final Exam made available	Pages and exercise nos. TBD
	Mar 27	<u>Make-up class for Good Friday</u>	Breakout rooms for work on Group projects	

Week 11	Apr 2	Good Friday	No Class	
Week 12	Apr 9	Group Presentations	Last Day of Classes	
	Apr 14	Exams Begin	Peer Teaching Assignment due (20%)	5PM
	TBA		Final Skills Check (20%)	Actual Date TBA
	Apr 23	Exams End		