

MUSC 1811-022 Applied Bassoon Fall 2022

Dr. Heather Killmeyer, email: killmeyer@mail.etsu.edu

Office: Martin Center 132

Welcome to the bassoon studio! Please review this document and retain a copy for reference. The policies and procedures below are subject to change. Any changes will be clearly noted in a course announcement or email.

Applied lessons provide the opportunity for one-on-one instruction to develop your musical skills in preparation for performance. Lessons will focus on musical fundamentals including tone production, breathing, embouchure, articulations, and technique, as well as issues of practice strategies and healthy use of the body. Lessons will also address music theory, history, and performance practice as they relate to performance on the bassoon. Students are expected to make regular, consistent progress and achieve a higher level of musical refinement and fluency at each level of study.

Course Structure

This course will be delivered through weekly in-person lessons in the studio or, in the case of possible exposure to Covid-19 as agreed upon for the needs of individual students, through one-on-one Zoom lessons or in-person lessons outdoors.

Studio class will meet in person on Thursdays at 12:10 p.m. in Mathes 18A. Studio class topics include reed making and adjustment, solo and chamber ensemble performances, orchestral excerpts, listening, practice techniques, and the history and development of the instrument. Class may be held in my office or in combination with other studios depending upon the topics and goals of the particular session.

Objectives

- To establish a foundation for musical and technical growth
- To develop a daily warm-up and practice routine including long tones, intonation exercises, technical studies, scales and arpeggios, etudes, and solo literature
- To identify, analyze, and address individual elements in musical performance (tone, intonation, voicing, technical challenges, rhythmic accuracy, articulation, breath control) and devise strategies for mastery and long-term growth
- To develop a deeper understanding of reed function, and develop physical ability to make, adjust, and manage bassoon reeds
- To amass a personal collection of printed music*

Grading

At the start of each semester, we will determine short-term and long-term goals and the student will commit to a practice schedule/plan of study to achieve those goals. Students are expected to practice daily, and integrate the concepts and strategies from lessons

into their practice sessions.

Grading is based primarily on the degree of preparation as evidenced by the success of performance in the lesson. Students are expected to make consistent progress.

Assessments

- Progress and Continued Development (50%)
- Preparation and performance at all lessons (35%) – Students are graded each week to gauge adequate, consistent, and thoughtful preparation. No--shows receive a 0.
- Reed Making (15%) – Students are required to demonstrate consistent effort in the development of reed making and adjusting skills, as well as build a collection of personal reed making tools.
- Jury and/or Major Public Performance (33%)
- Participation in Studio Class (10%) – Includes engagement in topics of discussion, performances, and assignments.
- Attendance at double reed recitals and events (7%) – Exposure to faculty and guest artist performances and presentations is a vital part of a well--rounded music education.

**As outlined in the Woodwind Area Handbook, students are required to purchase original scores of all music assigned for study in this course. Photocopies are not permitted. Dr. Killmeyer can assist you with locating less expensive options from different publishers.*

Students are responsible for following the policies outlined in the music department Student Handbook regarding, but not limited to, juries, level advancement, recital attendance for music majors and minors, recital performances, and exit examinations.

Grading Scale

93--100% = A 73--75% = C
90--92% = A-- 70--72% = C--
86--89% = B+ 65--69% = D+
83--85% = B 60--64% = D
80--82% = B-- below 60% = F
76--79% = C+

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to arrive on time and warmed up before every lesson. Any unexcused absence will result in an “F” for that lesson. Always communicate in advance if you are ill or some other extenuating circumstance prevents you from attending your scheduled lesson. In the case of extenuating circumstances, I will attempt to reschedule your lesson if possible. I will make every reasonable attempt to schedule makeup lessons for those missed due to instructor illness or professional activities.

You must maintain a **lesson notebook** each week. This will be used as a general

notebook for assignments and written comments about concepts covered in the lesson. I will occasionally email handouts of scales, arpeggios, rhythm practice patterns, and other exercises and these should be printed out and kept in a **three-ring binder or folder**.

Concert Attendance

Attendance at double reed performances is an important way to show support of fellow students, faculty, and guest artists. Students are required to attend all double reed studio recitals, faculty recitals, guest artist events, and any other concerts listed below unless you have been granted prior approval for an excused absence under university policy.

Reed o'Rama Studio Recital, Sunday, November 19, 2:00 p.m., Powell Recital Hall

Practice

All students enrolled in applied lessons are expected to practice daily. Music majors are required to practice a *minimum* of two hours per day. Music minors are required to practice a *minimum* of one hour per day. These times will vary according to the difficulty of your assigned material, your efficiency in practice technique, and specific goals you may have for a particular practice session. Students who are not majors or minors should expect to practice 7 hours per week (two credit hours) or 5 hours per week (one credit hour) depending upon enrollment.

Reed work in the practice room does not count as practice.

Self-Study and Initiative

Due to the limitations of a 30- or 60-minute lesson and the demands of reed adjustments, jury and recital preparation, ensemble repertoire, etc. we will not be able to cover everything within your complete program of study at each weekly lesson. Students will therefore be expected to take initiative to continue practicing and filling in the gaps without me checking up on you each week. For instance, I will not be listening to every component of the daily warm-up and long tone regimen at each lesson, but you are expected to practice with a tuner or drone and play long tones every day.

Students are encouraged to regularly listen to recordings of a variety of music, including bassoonists around the world and vocal and chamber music. Inspiration can come from surprising sources!

Level Requirements

Review the student handbook and area policies regarding requirements for advancement to each level. Students *must* advance to Level II after three semesters, but are encouraged to attempt advancement after two semesters.

Reed Making

Students are expected to make regular, consistent progress in their reed making skills.

Development of these skills requires daily practice *in addition* to instrument practicing. Students must purchase necessary equipment as assigned. Music majors are expected to play on their own reeds (with help from the instructor).

Students may be held financially liable for any damage or loss to university reedmaking equipment or instruments caused by carelessness or misuse.

Communication

Students must check their Goldlink email account at least once per day. All members of the double reed studio are expected to display collegial and professional behavior towards each other at all times.

COVID--19 Class Policy

In light of the pandemic, members of the university community are obligated to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend class, and will be provided with the opportunity to make up work on a case-by-case basis, provided they immediately notify faculty. If you have a known exposure to a positive case, please exercise caution and take steps to avoid the potential spread of COVID-19 to the campus community.

Syllabus Attachment

All university policies apply to this course. See information at <https://www.etsu.edu/reg/academics/syllabus.php>

Accommodations

It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University's commitment to equal educational opportunities. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations or seating placement, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty accommodation forms are provided to eligible students by Disability Services. Disability Services is located in the D.P. Culp Center, Room 326, telephone 439--8346.