

APPLIED LESSONS, OBOE
COURSE SYLLABUS
MUSA 1185/1190/1195/1285/3295/3391/5281/5391
FFA M132
Spring 2024
University of Texas El Paso

Instructor: Dr. Sara Renner

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Office Hours: Mondays 1:30-2:30pm, Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm, or by appointment

Course Objectives

Applied Lessons are designed to develop, strengthen, and introduce students to the artistic and technical aspects of oboe performance and practice, musicianship, reed making, and pedagogy. This includes the following objectives:

- Demonstrate the basics of musical performance with special attention to rhythm, tone quality, musical phrasing, technical precision, intonation, and style.
- Increase knowledge of core repertory, etudes, and excerpts.
- Increase development and execution of fundamentals, technique, and musical playing.
- Increase level of performance, ensemble collaboration, sight-reading, efficiency of preparation, audition taking, and overall musicianship.
- Explore new and overlooked works.
- Build skills for reed making self-sufficiency.
- Develop practice and problem solving skills to become a self-sufficient teacher/performer.

Course Requirements and Expectations

Course objectives will be met by:

- Attending all lessons.
- Coming to lessons warmed up, on time, and prepared.
- Engaging in the highest degree of preparation of assigned materials and fundamentals.
- Practicing in a way that ensures preparedness for lesson and ensemble materials.
- Presenting three new reeds per lesson/reed class that meet basic functionality requirements. Secondary students will present progress of at least one new reed per week.
 - Reed making expectations and requirements will be adjusted on an individual basis for non music majors and secondary students.
- Actively assessing your own progress through personal recording/evaluation.
- Bringing questions, curiosities, and engagement to your lesson!

Required Texts

- Etude books:
 - *Oboe Method* by A.M.R. Barret
 - *Method for Oboe: Progressive Studies (Exercises for Articulation) Part II* by Joseph Sellner (suggested edition by Valerie Anderson)
 - *48 Famous Studies for Oboe or Saxophone* by F.W. Ferling
 - *Foundation Studies for Oboe* by David Hite
- Other technique exercises, as assigned.
- Solo repertoire, as assigned.
- Orchestral Excerpts, as assigned (full part preferred).
- Repertoire is assigned on an individual basis based upon the goals and needs of the student.

Materials/Tools

- Functional oboe
 - It is your responsibility to check out a school instrument if necessary. The checking out and use of school instruments (including English horns) must be communicated to the instructor. Bocals must remain with their corresponding English horn.
- Functional reeds: you must have at least three functionals reeds at all times (including English horn reeds if applicable).
 - Minimum requirements: reed must seal, respond, and crow octave Cs (C# for EH)
- Reed tools: cane (tube cane if gouger is available), sharp knife, mandrel, cutting block, razor blades, plaque, staples, shaper tip/handle (provided by university), thread, beeswax
 - English horn reeds tools require separate cane, staples, mandrel, wire, and shaper tip (provided by instructor or university).
 - *Reed tools provided by the university or instructor (including shaper tips) will stay in the reed room or instructor's office.*
 - Reed tools and materials requirements will be adjusted for non-music majors and secondary students.
- Tuner/metronome
- Recording device

Attendance Policy

- Each student will have at least 12 lessons per semester.
- Show up to your lessons warmed up and ready to go. Do not be late!
- Students will sign up for lesson times based on weekly availability between the student and instructor. Consistent meeting times are preferred.
- No show lessons will result in a failing grade (F) for that lesson and a 10% reduction of your final grade.
- Excused absences must be communicated to the instructor no later than 24 hours in advance. Excused absences include but are not limited to documented illness, death in the

family/family emergency, religious holy days and observations, military duty, jury duty, official university activities, etc. The instructor reserves the right to deem what is considered an excusable absence in accordance with university guidelines. A list of excused absences can be found under the Policies and Regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog.

- The instructor determines the right to classify what is an excusable absence.

Method of Evaluation/Grading Scale

- Progression towards stated goals, along with evidence of a strong and consistent work ethic and effort, will be the basis for the final grade. Fulfilling the **Course Requirements and Expectations** will result in a successful grade for this course.
- Goals are assessed on an individual basis. The instructor deems what is an acceptable effort and completion towards the Course Requirements and Expectations.
- Juries
 - Counts as Final Exam for Applied Lessons.
 - Constitutes 25% of your overall semester grade.
 - Presented to Woodwind Faculty and/or Applied Professor at the end of the semester.
 - Requirement for students enrolled in Applied Lessons UNLESS they have presented a solo recital that semester.
 - This is a performance- dress in appropriate performance attire.

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

Accompanists/Coachings

- It is your responsibility to find an accompanist for your juries, recitals, and Friday recital performances. It is between you and your accompanist to decide on a compensation agreement.
- Accompanists must be secured within one month of your jury. For recitals, your pianist must be secured 6-8 weeks before your recital. The sooner, the better.
- The instructor must hear all works with piano at least twice before a performance.
- A list of recommended accompanists will be provided upon request.

Dress Rehearsal/Recital Scheduling

- It is your responsibility to find a time for recitals, dress rehearsals, and recital hearings that accommodate the appropriate faculty and personnel involved. Faculty can assist in reserving rooms.
- Recital hearings must be scheduled two to three weeks before your scheduled recital date.

UTEP Department of Music Area & Departmental Recitals Attendance Policy

- All students enrolled in Applied Lessons must attend a minimum of twelve (12) Area and Departmental recitals scheduled every Friday at 1:30 p.m., in the Department of Music. Failing to attend twelve (12) required recitals will lower the student's final Applied Lesson grade by one letter. Students are responsible for signing in at each recital electronically. Students arriving late, or leaving early may have their attendance voided.
- When a single area recital is canceled, students must either attend a different area recital held at the same time or attend a makeup event (see makeup procedures, below).
- **Recital Makeup Procedures**
 - Students may make up Area and Departmental recital absences by attending UTEP Music Department concerts and recitals. Non-university concerts such as El Paso Opera, El Paso Symphony, El Paso Wind Symphony, and El Paso Pro-Musica, as well as any other performances given by our faculty and guests, will be accepted.
 - To receive credit for UTEP Music events with electronic programs, the student must complete the online recital makeup form, available by hyperlink within the electronic program.
 - To receive credit for events with physical paper programs, the student's program must be signed at the conclusion of the event by a music faculty member in attendance.
 - The student must submit the signed program with their name and ID number clearly written on the front page to the Music Office (M301). The student must also sign the makeup log.
 - Without this information, the student will not receive credit. There will be no exceptions.
- **The deadline to turn in signed programs to the Music Office is Friday of finals week at 5:00 p.m. There will be no exceptions.**
- Students are responsible for knowing how many recitals they have or have not received credit for attending. Students may check their recital attendance by visiting the Music Office.

****PLEASE** stay on top of your departmental/area recital attendance. Do not make the instructor follow up on your behalf. Should you find an error, contact the music office immediately. Do not wait until the last minute to do this!!

Drop Course Policy

If you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know, and contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course. Fall Drop/Withdrawal Deadline is November 3.

Incomplete Grade Policy

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Scholastic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Course Resources

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources.



***This syllabus is subject to change at any time. Changes will be communicated by the instructor.