

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
APPLIED MUSIC INSTRUCTION IN OBOE

Revised August 13, 2016

Applied Principal Instrument course information for x920, x925, 2921, 3921, 3922, 3924y, 3929, 4921, 4922, 4923, 4924y, 4929, 9509a/b/y, 9584a/b/y, 9585a/b/y and 9786a/b/y

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2) COURSE INFORMATION AND SYLLABUS

This document provides pertinent information specific to your oboe studies. Please read it carefully. Also, it is your responsibility to know all the contents of the Western Music Performance Handbook. You can find it online at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

Students are responsible for acquainting themselves, via the Faculty website, with Jury Dates and Jury Requirements, as well as information contained in the Music Performance Studies Handbook. These three documents together, as well as this syllabus, comprise the course outline for Applied Music Instruction, and students must acquire the course outline during the first week of class. The Music Performance Studies handbook and the Jury Requirements/Dates for each instrument are posted on the Faculty of Music website. The links to both documents can be found at <http://www.music.uwo.ca>. Look under "Department", then "Performance", or go to: <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/dates.html>

And <http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/jury-requirements.html>

The Syllabus can be found under "Lesson Requirements" at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

3) Objectives

To foster and develop performance skills on the oboe, enhancing technical ability, musical artistry, reed making, knowledge of repertoire, and performing experience. This may include instruction on other members of the oboe family, such as cor anglais, depending upon the student's abilities and the demands of performance ensembles. Genuine enjoyment of the instrument and its repertoire, and self-sufficiency (including reed making) are goals to be achieved during the course of study. Progress will be evaluated during every lesson and performance class.

3a) Course Content

Lessons will normally include attention to the physics of oboe playing, including breathing, embouchure, finger technique, tuning, reed making, and other technical matters, and may include exercise and warm-ups geared to the achievement of healthy and musically correct reflexes. Attention will also be paid to the ability to play scales by memory and to the use of etudes to assist in the development of technical facility and stamina. The development of musical artistry as exemplified by an informed and expressive approach to performance will be the ultimate goal.

Choice of repertoire, in consultation with the Jury Requirements, will be guided by the instructor, keeping in mind the abilities of the individual student and the expected standard appropriate to each course specialization and year. Personal initiative in repertoire selection will be encouraged, subject to approval of the instructor and jury regulations.

a) Course Number:

Course numbers being taught will vary from year to year and the list of possible course numbers appear in the Master Course Outline for Applied Music Instruction. Information can be found at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

b) Weekly Lessons:

Attendance at all lessons and performance classes is mandatory. An oboe lesson sign-up sheet will be posted on the office door (B 219). Occasionally, because of illness, inclement weather, or legitimate academic conflicts, lessons need to be rescheduled. Requests for unavoidable absences must be emailed to me for prior approval. (You may also try contacting me by phone or text; but I must respond to the message in that case.) Students who do not take the appropriate steps for cancelling or rescheduling a lesson will be given a failing mark for the missed lesson, and no make-up will be provided. Make-up and rescheduled lessons that are missed again will not be made up. If the instructor must cancel a lesson, every effort will be made to provide advanced notice of the cancellation and provision will be made for a make-up lesson.

c) Disciplined Practice Routine:

Consistent daily practice on assigned lesson materials is a must. The instructor, in discussion with each student, will recommend a specific amount of practice time and appropriate strategy. However, students should be prepared to dedicate 2 to 3 hours each day to private practice. Performance majors should expect to practice in excess of 3 hours per day.

3b) JURY EXAMINATIONS

Juries take place at the end of the second term. The student is responsible for preparing a program of repertoire, studied throughout the academic year that fulfills the listed jury requirements. Jury requirements can be downloaded from the following site:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/jury-requirements.html>

Final Jury Examination dates can be found at:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/dates.html>

4) Course Materials:

Students are responsible for obtaining any assigned music by the following lesson. Students must own original music for any repertoire they are working on. Where music has to be ordered, students are advised to borrow from the Faculty's Music Library to fill the gap while waiting for delivery. It is the responsibility of the student to engage the services of an accompanist as near the beginning of each course year as possible. Wise students will frequently bring their accompanists to a portion of their lessons as an aid to the proper learning of repertoire, and in preparation for Master Class performances.

All oboe students must acquire as a required text personal copies of the *Barret Complete Oboe Method*, Kalmus edition recommended. An acceptable alternative is *The Vade Mecum of the Oboist*, by Albert J. Andraud, pub. Southern. As an adjunct, other collections of etudes may be considered, as required: for example, Ferling or Gillet etudes. However, the Barret etudes will be considered the course standard for undergraduate work. **Performance majors and graduate students** will be expected to acquire, for the purpose of orchestral repertoire preparation, **either** a complete set of *Difficult Passages*, by Evelyn Rothwell, pub. Boosey and Hawkes (3 volumes), **or** *Orchestral Excerpts for Oboe*, edited by John Ferrillo, pub. Theodore Presser. Strongly recommended for advanced performance majors, though not required, is *20th Century Orchestra Studies*, edited by John de Lancie, pub. Schirmer.

5) Methods of Evaluation:

Lesson Evaluation:

Grading for studio lessons will not be based solely on attendance, but also upon perceived attitude, effort, and improvement, measured against the expectation of an absolute standard of performance at the university level as qualified by the course specialization and year of the student. Students will be evaluated based on their speed and ability at learning and mastering new repertoire, while achieving improvement in the areas of tone quality, technical ability, reed making, tuning, musical and stylistic accuracy, and the ability to handle performance anxiety. Each lesson will be evaluated, and a mark out of 10 will be assigned. At the end of each term, the eleven highest grades will be averaged together to arrive at a final lesson mark. A mark of zero will be given for unapproved non-medical absences. Following is a list of criteria used in determining lesson marks:

Exceptional

Mark of 9 or 10

Exceptional progress was made on weekly repertoire, etude, and technical goals. There was outstanding demonstration of a positive attitude and an eager willingness to apply and expand upon the instruction given by the teacher.

Excellent

Mark of 8

Excellent progress was made on weekly repertoire, etude, and technical goals. There was demonstration of a positive attitude and a willingness to apply the instruction given by the teacher.

Fair

Mark of 7

Fair progress was made on weekly repertoire, etude and technical goals. There was demonstration of a positive attitude and a willingness to try new ideas.

Limited

Mark of 6

Limited progress was made on weekly repertoire, etude, and technical goals. There was little evidence of a positive attitude or willingness to work up to the student's potential.

Unsatisfactory

Mark of 5

While in the lesson, the student was willing to follow the instructor's directions, but no progress was made on weekly repertoire, etude, and technical goals.

Performance Class Evaluation:

Music majors will be required to attend all performance/masterclasses consisting of student performances, discussion and practice of relevant oboe pedagogy. (Non-music majors are not required to attend, but will be welcome to do so, although no mark will be submitted.) Students will perform a minimum of twice each term. Unless the chosen piece is unaccompanied, the performance must be accompanied. Students performing with accompanists are required to arrange attendance and rehearsal times according to the following schedule:

- i. At least one rehearsal prior to the performance
- ii At least one coaching session during the regular lesson time prior to the performance
- iii Any necessary follow-up rehearsals to adequately prepare for the performance.

At the end of the academic year, a final performance class mark out of 10 will be assigned, based on the following rubric:

Mark of 9 or 10

- All classes attended
- Meaningful contribution made to discussion
- 4 or more outstanding performances given
- Concert attendance requirement fulfilled
- All special oboe events attended
- Participation made in one or more special master classes/events

Mark of 8

- All classes attended
- Some contribution made to class discussion
- 4 or more well-prepared performances given
- Concert attendance requirement fulfilled
- All special oboe events attended

Mark of 7

- Most classes attended
- Limited contribution made to class discussion
- 4 performances given
- Concert attendance requirement fulfilled
- All special oboe events attended

Mark of 6

- 60% of classes attended
- Little contribution made to class discussion
- 3-4 performances given
- Concert attendance requirement partially fulfilled
- Some special oboe events attended

Mark of 0 to 5

- Multiple, unapproved absences
- No contribution made to class discussion
- 0 to 2 performances given
- Concert attendance requirement unfulfilled
- Few or no special oboe events attended

Performance Class location, day(s) & hour(s) will be posted. For more information on performance class regulations, students can refer to:

<http://www.music.uwo.ca/departments/music-performance/handbook/music-instruction.html>

Technique Evaluation:

Each student is responsible for achieving their prescribed technical requirements (scales and etudes). Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of the requirements at a scheduled exam in the 10th week of classes (November). If unsuccessful, students will have two more opportunities (February and/or April) to successfully pass the exam. If still unsuccessful after three attempts, the student will receive a reduced mark for the studio lesson portion of their final grade.

Concert Attendance

All students enrolled in performance classes must attend a minimum of 12 concerts per academic year (excluding concerts and performances in which the student is participating). Each student will be given a concert attendance card which will be signed by professors at the end of the various concerts. This requirement will be factored into the performance class grade.

Class Recital Participation

Oboe majors will be required to perform in all studio recitals. Attendance is also required for student or faculty oboe recitals or performances by visiting oboe soloists. Attendance at these events can be used to help fulfill the above concert attendance requirement.

6) Statements Required by the Senate:

Accommodation for Medical Illness

The Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at:

<https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/?cmd=logout>

The University has a new policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness states that “in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student’s overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean’s office...” (In Music, this means the Associate Dean, Undergraduate).

Scholastic Offence

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at: <http://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Plagiarism2014-2015.pdf>

Mental Health

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Pre-requisites

Students should note the following Senate regulation for ensuring that course prerequisites have been completed successfully or special permission from the Dean obtained: *“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from our Dean to enroll in it, you maybe removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”*