

South Plains College
Course Syllabus: MUAP 1165
Fall 2026

Department: Fine Arts

Discipline: Music

Course Title: Applied Woodwind Lesson

Meeting Time: TBD

Instructor: Dr. Sessa Wallace

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Purpose of the Course

This course is private instruction in oboe, bassoon, clarinet, or saxophone for non-music majors. Students will improve fundamentals and musicianship through a study of technique and repertoire appropriate to their individual abilities.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamentals of tone production and playing technique of their instrument.
- Demonstrate a variety of practice techniques, leading to an ability to perform with competence on their instrument.
- Perform technical exercises including scales, arpeggios, and etudes in major and minor keys.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the repertoire regularly performed on their instrument.
- Perform solos that not only demonstrate an understanding of proper tone production and intonation on the instrument but also demonstrate proper musicianship in regards to style and musical interpretation.
- Practice technical studies to enhance comprehension and enjoyment of playing their instrument.
- Improve musicianship in regards to style and musical interpretation.

Expectations

- The student is expected to come prepared for the lesson and to be on time.
- The student is expected to have practiced outside of the lesson and ensemble rehearsals. Five days a week for at least 30 minutes to an hour a day is considered a minimum amount.
- The student is expected to behave in an appropriate and professional manner.
- The student is expected to be interested in improving.
- The student is expected to keep a binder of assignments and practice records/observations.
- The student is expected to perform a final examination for the professor at the end of the semester. Failure to perform a final examination may result in an F for the semester.

Required Materials

- Reeds – broken in, at least 1 box (Vandoren or D'Addario Reserve)
- Neck strap, if applicable
- Pencil
- Journal
- 3-Ring Binder for lesson materials
- Metronome/Tuner – Apps are okay
- Instrument in excellent working condition

Lesson Meetings and Attendance

Lessons will be arranged according to students' and professor's class schedules. Attendance at all lessons is mandatory. Students are expected to show up on time and prepared for each lesson. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of F for that lesson. After two unexcused lessons, the student will be dropped from the course. Tardiness will be reflected in the lesson grade. If a lesson must be rescheduled, that must be approved by the instructor in advance of the normally scheduled lesson time.

If a student must a lesson because of participation in an activity sanctioned by the college or being sick, the student must notify the professor PRIOR to the day of absence. This notification must be in the form of a written document prepared by the Office of the Dean of Students or a doctor's note.

Each student will receive one "free" lesson in which they can cancel their lesson with no repercussions.

Withdrawal Policy

The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is December 3. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course averages will be updated weekly, and guidance will be provided throughout the term to help students decide whether they need to drop the class or not. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

If the student does not communicate with the professor or attend class for 3 consecutive weeks, the student will be advised to drop the course.

Grading Standards

Students are given a letter grade (A-F) after each lesson:

- A – Excellent preparation/performance of all assigned materials, excellent attitude/etiquette, exceptional improvement.
- B – Good preparation/performance of all assigned materials, good attitude/etiquette, good improvement.
- C – Average preparation/performance of assigned materials, some assignments not prepared, average attitude/etiquette, average improvement.
- D – Poor preparation/performance of all assigned materials, poor attitude/etiquette, poor improvement.
- F – Unexcused/missed lesson, unacceptable preparation, unacceptable improvement. Dismissed from lesson.

Final grades are based on a combination of the following:

- Preparation of weekly playing assignments – 50%
 - Scales/Technique
 - Repertoire
 - Run-Throughs
 - Assigned Recordings
- Repertoire Information Sheet – 10%
- Scale/Technique Midterm – 20%
- Final Exam – 20%

Final Exam

Non-music majors are required to perform a final exam for the professor at the end of each semester. The performance will include scales and etudes/repertoire that the student has worked on during the semester. Failure to perform a final examination will result in an F for the course.

Grade Book

The course grade book is maintained at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/webapps/login/>. You are encouraged to log in regularly, to keep track of your personal records. If you have questions about using this website, please do not hesitate to ask the professor.

Student Recitals

Non-music majors are strongly encouraged to attend **at least** one Student Recital. Recitals are held on specified Thursdays in the Recital Hall or virtually via Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom at 4pm.

SPC Syllabus Statements

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about Diversity, Disabilities, Nondiscrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

For information and resources about COVID-19, please visit:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.