

# Applied Bassoon BSN 101/301

Fall 2007; Times arranged with professor; 1, 2, 3, or 4 Credit Hours

Instructor: Assistant Professor **Scott Phillips**

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Office hours: M 11-1, T 10-12, W 12-2, Th 10-12, F 12-2, and by appointment

Web page found at SHSU Blackboard site: blackboard.shsu.edu

## Course Description:

To prepare the student to play bassoon as a competent musician.

## Course Goals:

- To improve the student's understanding of performance on bassoon, including subjects such as:
  1. technique
  2. tone production
  3. intonation
  4. reed making
  5. sight-reading
  
- To improve the student's understanding of musical concepts in general, including:
  1. musical expression
  2. performance styles of musical genres throughout history
  3. the idea of *being* a musician, as an individual and in the interpersonal relationships of ensemble playing, and in the overall endeavor of realizing music in society

Arranging a lesson time and Reed Class (Studio Class) time  
Lessons will be arranged by talking to Mr. Phillips, or by such means as he sees fit (i.e. email, signs etc.).

## Equipment and Supplies

To be used at every lesson: Bassoon; Reeds; Reed Tools; Tuner; Metronome; Lesson Music. Music and tools assigned must be acquired within two weeks.

## Semester Auditions

At the beginning of each semester, there will be a mandatory audition in front of the large ensemble directors and the professor. This will usually take place before the beginning of class each semester.

## Lesson Attendance

Lessons will include work on bassoon etudes, solo pieces, and orchestral repertoire (specific to the current ensemble needs), work on reeds, and discussions about all aspects of making music. You must attend your lessons. Any problems must be noted 24 hours in advance to Mr. Phillips. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. Only one unexcused absence will be allowed without penalty per semester—after that, an absence will count against your lesson grade. Excused absences require a written statement from a doctor or other such official, or a prior conference with Mr. Phillips. Excused absences will be made up, if possible.

## Reeds

Reeds must be obtained in enough quantity to permit you to perform at your highest level. This may involve purchasing reeds, although you may make your own. You may find you need to start with more reeds than you will use in order to have enough good ones. In addition to the reeds required for performance, you will be expected to make reeds from gouged cane. In each semester, you will make as many reeds as the total number of 2-or-higher-credit-hour lesson semesters you have taken. For instance, during of your fifth semester of lessons, you will be required to make five reeds.

## Reed Class (Studio Class)

In addition to lesson time, there will be one hour per week of reed class, to be attended by everyone enrolled in 2 or more credit-hour lessons. This will allow us to focus on reeds and other general information apart from lessons. For non-majors, these masterclasses will be at the discretion of the teacher.

## Public Solo Performance

You are required to perform as a soloist at least once each semester. Throughout your time in applied lessons, you will perform music from the four historic periods of the bassoon's existence. This may take place at your jury, or at a forum, or at a solo recital. You are required to have an accompanist perform with you, at your expense, unless your music does not require one. You will be graded and receive written comments from the faculty committee.

## Grades

Your weekly grade will depend on your preparation of lesson materials and your preparation of reeds for each lesson. (This will take a different amount of time each week, depending on your individual situation.) A lesson of A quality (well-prepared) will be worth 100%, B (reasonable well-prepared) will be 85%, C (somewhat prepared) will be 75%, D (not well prepared) will be 65%, and F (lesson not prepared or missed lesson without prior notice) will be 55%. Your weekly grades will be averaged and used to calculate 85% of your semester grade. The remaining 15% will be from your public solo performance (jury, recital, forum, etc.)

## Concert Attendance

You are expected to attend any recital, forum, masterclass, or other performance featuring any SHSU bassoon colleague. Additionally, you are required to hear any SHSU performance in which any woodwind faculty participate as a featured performer. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a lowering of the grade at the professor's discretion.

## Jury & Sophomore Proficiency Exam Requirements

Juries are the final exams for your bassoon lessons. You are responsible for all the material you have been assigned during the semester, plus any scales, note construction exercises, etc. If you give a recital, you are exempt from a jury in that semester only.

The *Jury* will consist of scale(s), in an agreed upon pattern, which were done during the semester, and a demonstration of musical abilities, by etude or solo with piano, and will include the possibly of sight-reading and oral testing of bassoon history and pedagogy.

The *Sophomore Proficiency Exam* will consist of the items listed under course goals above. Specifically, the student must show ability to 1) play all major and minor scales, 2) play a selection with piano, 3) give spoken answer to questions about bassoon history and pedagogy, and 4) read music at sight.

The student must bring a properly completed repertoire sheet to each jury or proficiency exam. This sheet will include the all of the studies, solos, chamber and orchestral pieces learned during the semester.

# University Policies

## **University Policy on Academic Dishonesty:**

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

## **Proper Classroom Demeanor/Rules of Conduct:**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, a directive to leave class (thus incurring an absence for the day) or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act:**

According to University policy, requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the SSD office and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided based upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center.

## **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester of the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Next time: Add clear attainable pass/fail goals for needs throughout the semester