

## **Graduate Clarinet Performance Study – Fall 2016**

MVW 5453 Clarinet V, 2 credit hours

MVW 6463 Clarinet VI, 2 credit hours

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### CLARINET STUDIO SEMESTER REQUIREMENTS

#### **Required Materials:**

- Clarinet and mouthpiece in excellent condition, reeds, sheet music

**Recommended materials:** reed knife, sharpening stone, reed clipper, #600 sandpaper, *Clarinet Fingerings*, by Tom Ridenour (available from Dr. Koons), **membership in the International Clarinet Association.**

**Objective:** The objective for clarinet performance study is to increase the student's clarinet performance skills in the areas of tone, technique, musicality, coverage of repertoire, memorization, sight reading, transposition and sight reading appropriate to the student's level and working toward the student's potential. At the graduate level, additional objectives are to learn important concepts of clarinet pedagogy, gain a substantial knowledge of clarinet repertoire, and learn key orchestral excerpts for clarinet.

Individual assignments for technique studies, etudes, repertoire, and other exercises will be made and evaluated in weekly lessons. The skills of memorization, sight-reading, and transposition will be included. Work with the computer exercise and accompaniment software SmartMusic will be included (individual student computer subscriptions are encouraged).

#### Listening Reports

To become more aware of the large clarinet repertoire, each student will complete annotated listings of **fifteen (15)** works from a minimum of five different recordings. These recordings must be new and not have been previously reported. Ten reports are due by October 7, 2016, with the remainder due December 2, 2016. At least one work must be from each of the following five genres: 1. clarinet with piano, 2. clarinet in chamber music, 3. jazz clarinet, 4. clarinet concerto, and 5. clarinet as part of the orchestra. Make sure to identify the genre of each work. *If the work has more than one movement, include all movements in one listing.* This assignment must be typed and printed on 8.5 X 11" paper.

Each listing must include: composer, title, recording title and label number, performer(s), and several sentences of a description of the work and your *personal impressions and reaction* to the recording. Try to include things that will aid in later recall of the recording.

*Example:*

Schumann, Robert

Fantasiestücke, op. 73

The Clarinet: Historical Recordings, Volume 1/Clarinet Classics CC0005

Reginald Kell, clarinet; Gerald Moore, piano

This early recording from 1940 is probably one of the first recordings of this work. The sound quality has been improved but is still very noisy. Kell's clear tone is audible, with some of the vibrato that has been so controversial. The playing is expressive, with appropriate rubato. The tempos seem to be fairly typical. This label specializes in bringing back old recordings and includes much good information on the performers.

### Composer/Music Report

For better preparation for performance as well as improved general musicianship, each student will complete **two** composer/music reports based upon primary repertoire pieces in the semester. These reports (500 words minimum) will include a summary of the composer's life, works and style, and a descriptive analysis of the work. In addition, each student will give a 3-minute verbal report on this topic in the studio class. Individual due dates will be assigned. **The written reports will be due by November 18, 2016**; details will be announced in class.

For both the verbal and written reports, each of the following should be included, and will be considered for grading:

**Composer:** birth and death dates, overall style(s), major works, other works for clarinet (if any), importance of this work in overall output

**Music:** form of the piece, harmonic language used, areas of difficulty for the player, and use of contrast.

### Clarinet in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

For Fall 2016, a special focus will be on clarinet in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This will include student projects and presentations on notable clarinet works and notable clarinet performers. Each student will be assigned two works and two performers to study. For each work and each performer, the student will prepare a verbal report which will provide a summary for the class. For the report on clarinet works, the inclusion of a recording is encouraged. In addition, the student will prepare a written report for each work and performer, with a minimum of 500 words. The verbal reports will be assigned to various studio class dates throughout the semester. The written reports will be due on November 18, 2016.

Lessons are scheduled at the beginning of the semester. Please give your class schedule to Dr. Koons by the first day of classes. Check the door for the posted lesson schedule.

Students are expected to attend all lessons, studio classes, and required performances. Absences by the instructor will be made up. For excused absences (such as illness or a death in the family), with prior notification by the student, there will be an attempt at a make up lesson. If you know that you will have a schedule conflict for a worthwhile reason, let me know and in most cases an alternate time can be arranged. Unexcused absences will incur a grade penalty and will only be made up at the instructor's discretion. Keeping appointments is very important for a musician. Get a schedule book and use it. It is very hard for you to learn from a lesson if you are not there. If you miss a lesson for any reason, you must notify me by the end of the day of the lesson, in person or by phone.

Sheet Music. It is the student's responsibility to furnish music and bring it to each lesson. Please also bring a music manuscript notebook for writing down exercises, assignments, etc. It is

desirable for each student to buy his or her own music to build a personal music library. Some sources are:

Allegro Music Center, Inc. 1042 E. Semoran Blvd. Casselberry, FL 32707 (407) 830-5856	Luyben Music Co. 4318 Main St. Kansas City, MO 64111 (816) 753-7111 <a href="http://www.luybenmusic.com">www.luybenmusic.com</a>	Just for Winds 336 Production Court Louisville, KY 40299 502-365-1429 <a href="http://www.justforwinds.com">www.justforwinds.com</a>
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Lessons are scheduled at the beginning of the semester. Please give your class schedule to Dr. Koons by the first day of classes. Check the door for the posted lesson schedule.

Equipment Keep your clarinet in good working order. Be well supplied with reeds-- keep a reserve supply, plan ahead, and never, ever get down to your last box of reeds. Other necessary items are a reed knife and/or reed rush, a reed clipper, #600 sandpaper, and a glass block or plate for working reeds. A good local repair source is Underwood Music, 4949 Pine Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32792, (407) 677-8792

Repertoire Class (Friday 10:30-11:20) Attendance is normally required; if your schedule prevents it, please make other arrangements with Dr. Koons. This is technically the second hour of your clarinet study. There will be assignments and preparation for this class in addition to your private lessons.

Expectations:

1. Come to your lesson warmed up.
3. Students are expected to practice assignments. While some people are more efficient than others, a good guideline is a **minimum of two hours per day**.
4. Students are expected to attend clarinet related performances, master classes and other events on campus. This increases your knowledge of the repertoire, playing styles, performance skills and overall background in the clarinet. *Especially important are junior, senior, graduate, faculty, and guest recitals.*
5. Exams: all clarinet students must play for a faculty jury at the end of the semester (with the exception of students performing their MA recital during the semester).
6. Quiz at beginning of semester – **due by Friday, August 26**. This quiz will be done through the Webcourses system. As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this academic activity by the end of the first week of classes. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Professional Society Membership in the International Clarinet Association is highly recommended. This includes the excellent quarterly journal, The Clarinet. This can be done online at [www.clarinet.org](http://www.clarinet.org).

## Performance Exams

Jury performance exam – performance of assigned repertoire for faculty panel; scheduled during final exam week

Criteria for Grading The following criteria will be taken into account when assigning grades. If you have questions about your standing during the semester, please ask.

1. Weekly preparation of lesson assignments, weighing the quantity and quality of achievement with the student's potential, and with consideration of consistency and rate of progress, and attendance at repertoire class, lessons, and department clarinet recitals, and performances in the studio class and Music Forum. Assignments may also include reflection on lesson video samples. (40%).
2. Grades from quizzes, technique midterm, scale test, faculty jury and other assigned tests (35%).
4. Composer/Music report (written and oral) (10%).
5. Listening reports (5%).
6. Assignments in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Project (10%)
7. Final grades may include plus/minus grades.

Students are expected to adhere to conduct rules established in The Golden Rule, available at <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

This syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor.