
The University of North Carolina at Wilmington



Department of Music

Saxophone Studio Syllabus • Fall 2009

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The UNCW Saxophone Studio

Philosophy

The primary goal of the UNCW saxophone studio is the study of saxophone fundamentals to develop skills, musicianship, and pedagogical concepts necessary for establishing a strong foundation in understanding and mastering the saxophone mechanics used in making music.

This goal is achieved through the study and performance of various materials, based on the student's curriculum, as outlined in the Saxophone Repertoire list, with a strong focus on the musical aspects of technique, articulation, tone development, air stream control, musical interpretation, and extended techniques, among others.

Lessons

General Objectives

- To study and perform a variety of music literature (e.g., style, genre, time period, solo as well as chamber music) indigenous to current saxophone performance practices, including Western European as well as Non-Western Art Music and jazz.
- To develop the necessary skills through various technical, tone, intonation, and articulation studies needed to perform the saxophone appropriately.
- To develop an awareness of musical interpretation through the development of tools for manipulating music and through music analysis.
- To be able to discuss the historical significance of the music, the composer, and the saxophone within the realm of each piece studied.

Attendance Policy

- **Attendance is mandatory for each lesson.** Should you need to miss, it is your responsibility to switch lesson times with another student.
- Make-up lessons are not an option unless you have an extenuating situation (e.g., medical excuse, school-sponsored trip, etc.) that would prevent you from attending your regularly scheduled lesson time. An unexcused absence will result in an "F" for that week.

Requirements

Weekly lessons:

- All lessons should be considered a performance and should be prepared accordingly.
- Students should schedule enough time prior to the lesson in order to assemble their instrument and sufficiently warm-up, as well as select a reed to successfully perform the lesson assignment at the highest level of musicianship and performance skill appropriate to the student's level of development.
- A grade will be earned for each lesson based on the individual's progress.
- All lessons should be prepared thoroughly by focusing upon the following musical aspects: interpretation, tone, rhythm, intonation, articulation, and correct notes.
- Attendance is mandatory (**see above**).
- Students are expected, to practice daily. The following is a list of the suggested amount of the minimum daily practice time for music majors/minors.
 - 195/395: one (1) or more hours daily
 - 196/396: two (2) or more hours daily
 - 197/397: three (3) or more hours daily

Practice time should be dedicated to developing skills on the saxophone and involve all aspects of performance elements, as listed above. In addition, this goal should be achieved with focused daily practice on materials assigned and discussed in lessons, such as, tone studies, scales, etudes, and repertoire. Ensemble practice should not be considered part of one's daily practice time.

Seminars (Tuesday, 3:30, CA-1086 for Saxophone, and BRH for Departmental on last Tuesday of each month:

In addition to the weekly saxophone lesson, each saxophone student is required to attend a weekly seminar. The seminars provide students with a variety of activities, including regular opportunities for students to perform in solo, duet, and chamber music formats; an opportunity for a healthy exchange of ideas on various topics, including performance critiques; discussion of topics presented by the instructor, such as saxophone fundamentals and other saxophone related techniques; performances, clinics, and master classes by the

instructor, as well as guest artists; reviews of new music, recordings, and equipment, among other topics. Seminar requirements include the following:

- Attendance is mandatory for all saxophone majors as well as minors, and recommended for all saxophone students.
- Saxophone majors will need to perform at least twice and minors at least once during Saxophone or Departmental seminar. Performances may be either a master class format, or a formal performance of repertoire as a soloist or as a member of a chamber ensemble.
- Students will be required to present a short, one-page, historical report of the piece, composer, or performer to be performed during Saxophone Seminar performances. Most of the information for this report may be gleaned from the various saxophone resource books found in the library (see the *Saxophone Levels & Repertoire* information). Reports will be submitted (i.e., one-page, typed, and single-spaced) to Dr. Bongiorno after the performance presentation. It is your responsibility to see that these requirements are fulfilled.
- Saxophone ensemble (when applicable): All students will perform in the studio saxophone ensemble.

Concert attendance:

- Saxophone majors need to attend **8 concerts** during the course of a semester. Six concerts attended should be other than those in which the saxophonist is a participant. In addition, of the six concerts attended beyond the two performed, the saxophone major is required to attend at least one orchestral, one vocal and/or choral, one jazz, and one instrumental concert, other than saxophone.
- Grades will be lowered by a minus (-) increment for each concert under the eight required. Students are required to submit concert programs attended no later than the day of juries at the end of the semester.
- **Finally, attendance is required for all saxophone concerts (i.e., student recitals and guest artists) on campus.** Students will be required to submit a one-page critique of the performance (i.e., list performers, performance date, compositions performed, composers, and a short critique of the performance) at the end of the semester. Grades will be lowered by a minus (-) increment if this requirement is not met.
- Students can also receive extra credit (i.e., increment of a plus on the final grade) for attending two or more concerts above the eight required.

Other:

- **Saxophone majors are strongly encouraged to be members of the *North American Saxophone Alliance*** and are encouraged to subscribe to the *Saxophone Journal* (see the UNCW Saxophone Website for more info).
- See the Department of Music Student Handbook for additional requirements in applied music.

Materials

Recommended for all saxophone students (see details below as well)

1. The Saxophonist's Workbook by Larry Teal
 2. Ferling Etudes, edited by Marcel Mule
 3. Omnibook by Charlie Parker
 4. The Orchestral Saxophonist (Ronkin/Frascotti)
 5. Solos (see the UNCW Saxophone Website: <http://www.uncw.edu/music/bongiornof/courses.html>)
 6. A blank CD
 7. A composition notebook for instructor's comments
- See the repertoire lists for required solos and etude materials for the year as well as for suggested materials needed throughout the undergraduate course study in saxophone at UNCW (**UNCW Saxophone Repertoire Levels**).
 - All saxophone students are required to acquire assigned materials (i.e., etudes, solos, etc.) ASAP. Failure to acquire these materials within the course of the semester will result in the final grade being lowered a full letter grade.
 - Reeds and other saxophone equipment should be conducive to the appropriate performance situation for each student. This will be determined during lessons according to each student's situation. Be sure you have at least two playable reeds for each lesson.
 - Each student will be required to own a metronome, tuner, lesson notebook, and either a one-time or re-write CD. **The notebook and CD should be brought to each lesson and seminar, and are to be used for written comments and recorded performances, respectively.**

Grading

- 50% Average of weekly lessons
- 20% Final jury
- 10% Final scale jury
- 10% Concert attendance and critique
- 10% Seminar participation

While quantity of material covered is dependent upon the student's level and ability, saxophone students will be required to successfully accomplish the following with regard to materials covered each semester:

- Be able to play assigned exercises (e.g., scales, arpeggios, etc...) for each respective level (see Saxophone Repertoire and Levels).
- Be able to perform five (5) or more etudes, or the equivalent, and a minimum of two (2) solo pieces.

Grading Rubric:

Grade	Criteria
A	Play weekly assignment, in its entirety, at prescribed tempos with correct notes (i.e., no more than 1-3 wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 95% accuracy for all of the above aspects.
A-	Play weekly assignment, in its entirety, at prescribed tempos with correct notes (i.e., 1-3 wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 92-94% accuracy for all of the above aspects.
B+	Play weekly assignment (all but one area) at slightly below tempos (no more than 5 points) with correct notes (i.e., no more than 4 wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 88-91% accuracy for all of the above aspects.
B	Play weekly assignment (all but one area) at below tempos (no more than 10 points) with correct notes (i.e., no more than 4 wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 85-87% accuracy for all of the above aspects.
C	Play weekly assignment at below tempos (no more than 10 points) with correct notes (i.e., 5-6 wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 80% accuracy for all of the above aspects.
D	Play weekly assignment significantly below tempos (more than 10 points) with correct notes (i.e. 6 or more wrong notes per each area), appropriate style, good tone & intonation, and precise finger (i.e., technique). A minimum of 75% accuracy for all of the above aspects.

Jury grades

In addition, weekly lesson grades, as well as the final jury grade, will be based upon the student's ability to successfully achieve the specific goals (listed below for each major) **each semester**.

- 195-11: Students are required to prepare and/or perform one short solo composition, movement, or an unaccompanied etude, as well as select exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a five-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.
- 196-11: Students are required to perform at least one solo piece with accompaniment, select etudes, and exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a ten-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.
- 197-11: Students are required to perform at least one solo piece with accompaniment, select etudes, and exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a fifteen-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.

Students are required to perform an Upper Divisional Jury at the end of the second year of study as a major (please see the Student Handbook for further information and details). The jury will consist of solo and etude materials as well as scale requirements (see the Saxophone Repertoire & Levels) totaling twenty minutes of music. Repertoire and scales, as performed according to Repertoire Level guidelines, must be successfully passed in order to enroll in Upper Level applied lessons.

- 395-11: Students are required to prepare and/or perform one short solo composition, movement, or an unaccompanied etude, as well as select exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a five-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.
- 396-11: Students are required to perform at least two solo pieces with accompaniment, select etudes, and exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a ten-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.
- 397-11: Students are required to perform at least three solo pieces with accompaniment, select etudes, and exercises, including scales, from any level of the *Recommended Saxophone Repertoire & Levels* list each semester enrolled. The end of the semester jury will consist of a fifteen-minute performance of repertoire and materials covered during the semester.

Additional Information

Performance Attire

Students should dress accordingly for every performance. While ensembles have specific attire (i.e., black, tuxedo, etc.), the attire for saxophone performances in seminar and juries should be dress slacks or dresses, and collared shirts with ties for the men. All recital performances should be formal attire (i.e., formal dress, tuxedo, or jacket and tie).

Accompanist Procedure

- The instructor will inform students when it is appropriate to begin rehearsing with an accompanist.
- At this point, the student should have prepared the music accordingly and is ready to add the accompaniment to the next stage of development in the student's presentation.
- It is the student's responsibility to contact and schedule rehearsal times with the accompanist.
- The student should have rehearsed at least one time with the accompanist before presenting the performance in either a lesson and/or other formal presentation.
- The student may not formally perform a piece with accompaniment without first performing it for the instructor in lessons or master class.

Saxophone Services

The North American Saxophone Alliance (<http://www.saxalliance.org/>) places great importance on the dissemination of information that concerns the saxophone and provides opportunities for music making by its members, while fostering fellowship among saxophone enthusiasts of all ages and backgrounds. Yearly dues are \$25.00 for students. This entitles you to issues of the Saxophone Symposium and discounted admission to regional, national, and world saxophone conferences.

Saxophone music and recordings

The Woodwind Service
Homepage Showroom: www.dornpub.com

Classical Saxophone, Atlanta, GA
www.classicsax.com

Burrage Music Co.
4900 Green Road
Raleigh, NC
1.800.662.7318 or 919.872.0211 - www.burrage.com

Hickeys Music
(1.800.442.5397)
<http://www.hickeys.com/>

Eble Music
Iowa City, IA
319.338.0313
<https://www.eble.com/store/>

Meridian Music
Ann Arbor, MI
1.800.695.8729 or 517.339.7333
<http://meridianmusic.com/>

Brodts Music Company
Charlotte, NC
1.800.438.4129
<http://www.brodtsmusic.com/>

Woodwind equipment: instruments, reeds, mouthpieces, cases, etc. at discounted prices.

Pro Winds, Inc.
1400 E 3rd Street
Bloomington, IN 47401
US Toll Free Call: 1-800-789-8509
International Call: +1 (812) 333-2095
Fax: (812) 333-2729
<https://www.prowinds.com/>

Frederic Weiner, Inc.
www.weinermusic.com
1-800-622-CORK

Chuck Levin's Washington Music Center
11151 Veirs Mill Road
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone (301) 946-8808
Fax (301) 933-4438
<http://www.washingtonmusic.com/>

Fermata Music Studios
612 St. Andrews Road
Ashland Park Suite 6
Columbia, SC 29210
www.fermatamusic.com
803.368.1055 or fax: 803.588.9042

The Saxophone Journal: a bi-monthly magazine containing articles about music, performers, pedagogy, and more. Each magazine now contains a CD of either master classes on specific topics, samplers, and play-alongs. Six Issues.

Dorn Publications, Inc.
PO Box 206
Medfield, MA 02052
www.dornpub.com

Jazz materials:
Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Inc.
PO Box 1244
New Albany, IN 47151-1244
1.800.456.1388
www.jazzbooks.com

THE UNCW STUDENT ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

The University of North Carolina Wilmington is a community of high academic standards where academic integrity is valued. UNCW students are committed to honesty and truthfulness in academic inquiry and in the pursuit of knowledge. This commitment begins when new students matriculate at UNCW, continues as they create work of the highest quality while part of the university community, and endures as a core value throughout their lives.

Other related links

Dr. Frank Bongiorno (Saxophone & Jazz Materials)
<http://www.uncw.edu/music/bongiornof/index.html>

Department of Music: <http://www.uncw.edu/music/>

Please see **The Saxophone Repertoire Levels**, found on my website (see above) for further information and details of requirements.

