

# WESTERN UNIVERSITY

## MUSIC 2861 A: WOODWIND INSTRUMENT TECHNIQUES

### COURSE INFORMATION

Fall 2023

Instrument Sign-Out & Returns  
M-F 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Talbot College 313

### Course Information – General

Course information for 2861 A/B can be found at:

[https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/Courses.cfm?CourseAcadCalendarID=MAIN\\_030751\\_1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/Courses.cfm?CourseAcadCalendarID=MAIN_030751_1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=)

### Course Outline

Music Education *Course Outlines* can be found at:

<https://music.uwo.ca/departments/music-education/course-outlinesMusEd.html>

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Dr. Bobbi Thompson  
Office: Music Building 561  
Email: [bthomp24@uwo.ca](mailto:bthomp24@uwo.ca)

Course Site: <https://owl.uwo.ca>  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Office Phone: (519) 661-2111 ext. 85367

### COURSE SYLLABUS

This course will focus on the fundamentals of flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, and saxophone pedagogy, with an emphasis placed on the remediation of common performance problems experienced by beginning and intermediate level students. Salient repertoire and pedagogical resources for class instruction will be also examined.

### Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Have a basic understanding of the fundamentals of teaching and playing flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, and saxophone.
2. Identify and remediate common performance problems experienced by students of flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, and saxophone.
3. Examine repertoire and pedagogical resources appropriate for beginning and intermediate levels of woodwind class instruction.
4. Teach a private lesson on an instrument studied in class to a beginner on that instrument.
5. Be familiar with a variety of fingerings appropriate to various passages and keys for each instrument.
6. Be able to analyze written woodwind music for potential technical difficulties and devise appropriate solutions for student learning.
7. Identify idiosyncrasies of each instrument and commonalities between instruments.
8. Be able to properly assemble/disassemble each instrument and demonstrate basic care and maintenance.

## **Achieving the Objectives**

### Regular Class Attendance

It is expected that you will attend every class, be punctual, complete assignments in a timely way, and participate fully and respectfully in class discussions. Occasionally, because of illness, inclement weather or legitimate academic conflicts, students will need to be absent. Requests for unavoidable absences must be emailed to the instructor for prior approval. Students who do not take the appropriate steps for communicating an absence will be given a mark of zero for the missed class. More than two unexcused absences will be brought to the attention of the Chair of Music Education immediately. If the instructor must cancel a class, every effort will be made to provide advanced notice of the cancellation and provision for an alternative assignment will be communicated through OWL. Please read additional information under “University Policies.”

Western’s *Policy on Accommodation for Illness* can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical%2015JUN.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical%2015JUN.pdf)

Information on *Academic Consideration for Absence* can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/procedures/academic\\_consideration\\_for\\_absences/index.html](https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/procedures/academic_consideration_for_absences/index.html)

The university’s policy on attendance may be found at:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf)

### Disciplined Practice Routine

Consistent daily practice on your assigned instrument is mandatory. Students should be prepared to dedicate 20-30 minutes each day to individual practice. Many techniques learned on one woodwind instrument are applicable and transferable to the others. Daily practice will facilitate a lasting familiarity with the workings of the woodwind family.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

The following items are required for use during and between class sessions:

1. Well-maintained instruments, mouthpieces, ligatures, reeds, and other accessories
2. High-quality metronome, tuner, listening device, and audio/video recording device
3. Original books and/or PDFs for all works used in class as assigned by the instructor
4. Personal music stand
5. Notebook and pencil

N.B. Instruments will initially be available from Len Ingrao (TC 313). Students will be given one instrument at the beginning of the term. Additional instruments will be assigned and distributed through the course instructor during class time. Instruments will be returned to Len Ingrao at the end of the term. Care and proper storage of instruments are the responsibility of the student.

Students are responsible for providing their own reeds and will be advised on the appropriate vendors and strengths. Reeds may be purchased from Len Ingrao, the course instructor, Long & McQuade, and/or other reputable vendors that have been pre-approved by the course instructor. Reeds are not to be shared.

## **Required Textbook**

The required textbook for this course is available at the campus bookstore:

[https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2023A&courses%5B0%5D=001\\_UW/MUS2861A](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2023A&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/MUS2861A)

Teaching Woodwinds: A Guide for Students and Teachers

Authors: Wilson, Hamilton, Dubois, Andrus, Mann and Levinsky

Publisher: Mountain Peak Music

Purchase of the text includes lifetime access to their website which includes video, audio, photographs, and charts that accompany the printed book. You will be required to make full use of both the printed text and online resources. Having your own, personal copy of the textbook with your unique access code will facilitate your ability to access the information required to complete many of the learning activities in this course.

## **Other Required Readings**

Other required readings will be available on the OWL course site.

## **METHODS OF EVALUATION**

Written submissions must be word processed and are due on the assigned due date. Performance quizzes will be submitted via video recordings and are due on the assigned due date. Written quizzes will be completed in class. The last day of scheduled classes in any course will be the last day on which course assignments will be accepted for credit in a course.

## **Grade Definitions**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| A+: 90-100  | One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level   |
| A: 80-89    | Superior work which is clearly above average                    |
| B: 70-79    | Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory |
| C: 60-69    | Competent work, meeting requirements                            |
| D: 50-59    | Fair work, minimally acceptable                                 |
| F: Below 50 | Fail  |

## **Late Assignments**

Due to the nature of this course and limited access to each instrument, late submissions of performance tests cannot be accepted. Under extenuating circumstances, and with the approval of the Associate Dean (Undergraduate), make up tests can be scheduled.

Late assignments will be accepted with a grade penalty of 20% per day. Assignments submitted more than 30 minutes past the due time will be considered late.

## Course Assignments

The final mark for this course will consist of the following assignments and quizzes:

### Performance Tests (40%)

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Flute           | 10% |
| 2. Clarinet        | 10% |
| 3. Saxophone       | 10% |
| 4. Oboe or Bassoon | 10% |

N.B. Students who primarily play (or have significant experience playing) a woodwind instrument will be assigned the four instruments that do not correspond to their major instrument of study (e.g., a saxophonist will study and take tests/quizzes on flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon).

### Assignments and Written Quizzes (60%)

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Four (4) Written Quizzes       | 40% |
| 2. Teaching Lesson Assignment     | 10% |
| 3. Teaching Reflection Assignment | 10% |

## Assignments

The details of these assignments, grading rubrics, and all due dates will be provided on the OWL course site. A mark of zero will be given for assignments, quizzes, and tests that are missed or not submitted on the assigned due date.

### 1) Performance Tests (40%)

A performance test will take place at the end of each of the four rotations of the course. These tests – which include scales and exercises practiced during class – offer students the chance to show their ability to demonstrate instruments to future pupils. Students are responsible for submitting video-recorded performance tests as assigned.

### 2) Written Quizzes (40%)

A written quiz will be given on each of the four instruments studied during the course. Information for these quizzes will be drawn from required readings, class work, handouts, and guest lectures.

### 3) Teaching Lesson Assignment (10%)

Students are responsible for submitting a video-recorded teaching lesson as assigned. Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of teaching beginning instrument assembly, embouchure, and first sound concepts with these recordings.

### 4) Teaching Reflection Assignment (10%)

Students will have the opportunity to reflect on their ability to start a beginner on an instrument learned in this class and focus on identifying strengths, areas for improvement, and the overall impact of selected teaching methods on student learning.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

All topics, assignments, and tests are in addition to group study and performance in class. Course topics and schedule are subject to change with notice. This will be based upon the progression of the class majority and is at the course instructor's discretion.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Sep. 7-29</b> | <b>Rotation #1</b>  |
| Sep. 7           | First day of class; instrument sign-out with Len Ingrao (TC313) |
| Sep. 25          | Written Quiz #1   |
| Sep. 28          | Performance Test #1 due   |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Oct. 2-20</b> | <b>Rotation #2</b>                      |
| Oct. 6           | Group #1 Teaching Lesson Assignment Due |
| Oct. 9           | Thanksgiving – No class                 |
| Oct. 16          | Written Quiz #2                         |
| Oct. 19          | Performance Test #2 due                 |

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Oct. 23-Nov. 17</b> | <b>Rotation #3</b>                      |
| Oct. 27                | Group #2 Teaching Lesson Assignment Due |
| Oct. 30-Nov. 5         | Reading Week – No classes               |
| Nov. 13                | Written Quiz #3                         |
| Nov. 16                | Performance Test #3 due                 |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Nov. 20-Dec. 8</b> | <b>Rotation #4</b>   |
| Nov. 24               | Teaching Reflection Assignment due                         |
| Dec. 4                | Written Quiz #4  |
| Dec. 7                | Performance Test #4 due                                    |
| Dec. 8                | Last day of class; instrument return to Len Ingrao (TC313) |

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **i) Prerequisite Checking**

[Permission of the department. Antirequisite(s): the former Music 2863Q/R/S/T, the former Music 2865Q/R/S/T, the former Music 2866Q/R/S/T.] Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be 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.

### **ii) Grading scale**

A+=90-100%, A=80-89%, B=70-79%, C=60-69%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%.

### **iii) Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%)**

Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. Academic Consideration provides students with consistent, fair, and pedagogically appropriate consideration, without compromising the

academic integrity of the course or program, when they have been unable to complete some component of a course due to short-term extenuating circumstances. Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions (physical or mental) that may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities are directed to seek Academic Accommodation through Accessible Education:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the end of the period of absence covered, to the Academic Counselling unit or Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), of the student's Home Faculty together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the academic consideration being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness at the following website for further details regarding various requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration.pdf)

Whenever possible, students who require academic consideration should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

#### **iv) Academic Consideration for Missing Work (<10%)**

In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean's office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) or quiz(ze)s will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean's office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

#### **v) Academic Offences**

Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic 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://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

#### **vi) Mental Health and Wellness**

Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green "I Need Help Now" button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

### **vii) Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

### **viii) Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays (other than statutory holidays), and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. The Diversity Calendar from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion provides information on multifaith, multicultural and diversity related holidays and observances and links to resources for more information:

<https://www.edi.uwo.ca/resources/2816-2023-Diversity-Calendar-PDF.pdf>

### **ix) Contingency Plan**

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, should any university-declared emergency require some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience), the course will adapt accordingly. The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

### **x) Gender-Based and Sexual Violence**

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html)

To connect with a case manager or to set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca) or call 519-661-3568.

### **xi) Examinations & Attendance**

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

### **xii) Electronic Devices in Exams**

Electronic devices of any type will not be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).

### **xiii) Electronic Devices in Classrooms**

The in-class use of electronic devices (other than for instructor-approved in-class uses) is expressly prohibited. Students found guilty of disrupting the class with electronic devices will be asked to leave the class and may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

### **xiv) Plagiarism Detection Software Usage**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism, which includes AI writing detection tools. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

### **xv) Computer-marked Multiple-choice Tests or Exams**

These may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **xvi) Protection of Online Content**

The instructor of this course owns the intellectual property of all lectures and lecture materials. Even when such lectures and lecture materials are posted online, students are not to post lectures or lecture materials to any other websites or platforms or use the lecture recording or materials for any other purpose without the instructor's consent. No student is permitted to record either live lectures or recorded lectures *without the express consent of the instructor*.

### **xvii) Sessional Dates**

<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>

### **xviii) Academic Counselling**

The Don Wright Faculty of Music Student Services area (Talbot College Room 210) offers academic counselling, services, and support to all undergraduate Music students:

<http://music.uwo.ca/current-students/undergraduate/acad-counselling.html>