

Course Syllabus - Applied Flute

Dr. Eldred Spell

Taught under the following course numbers:

Music 105, 107, 207, 307, 407, 612, 613

Purpose: Applied lessons at the college level are considered professional preparation for a career in music. Music is an intensely competitive field in which comparisons are easily made. Whether you intend to teach, play, or work in the business end of music, your credibility will often be judged by your ability to perform. In addition, the perspectives and problem-solving skills required to give a good performance will prove valuable in every aspect of your life.

The central goal is for you to perform effectively in front of a crowd of strangers. This requires a degree of personal development and self confidence. It also requires a number of specific skills and a considerable depth of knowledge. This includes preparation and practice techniques, practical understanding of the flute, and a broad awareness of historical styles and appropriate performance practice.

General Requirements:

Weekly Lessons a minimum of ten, 50-minute lessons must be completed in order to receive a passing grade. Fifteen lessons are possible and this should be your goal.

Absences are not an option. Each lesson is evaluated using a "Applied Lesson Sheet."

The result is your weekly lesson grade.

Principal's Class - Bring your flute and be prepared to play with or without notice. You are allowed one unexcused absence per semester. More absences will affect your final grade.

Public Performance - You are expected to perform as a soloist in public, at least once a semester. Student recitals fill up quickly, so plan ahead - get a date and an accompanist NOW!

Check Sheet:

1. These address differing minimal technical requirements, specific to each semester. **You should aspire to do much more!**

2. While you will receive some coaching on these during lessons, preparation is based on your own time and initiative. Requirements should be passed off during, regular lessons. Please don't procrastinate and then ask for extra time at the end of the semester.

3. The check sheet counts 15% of your final grade.

Recital Attendance:

1. **As a music major, you must register for MUS 358-01 and attend ten recitals each semester.** Preparation and presentation of a recital usually represents an heroic effort on someone's part. They deserve your support, regardless of instrument or voice. In addition, you should feel a real hunger to hear new repertoire and different styles of flute playing. Your attendance is strongly encouraged at ALL on-campus recitals which feature the flute.

2. Your attendance is required at all major flute events. These include Flute Studio Recitals, Junior Qualifying Examinations, Senior Examinations, Junior and Senior Recitals, Faculty and Guest Flute Recitals, Masterclasses, and other events as announced. If in doubt, ask. Your grade will be lowered one letter for missing a major event.

Jury - This is the equivalent of a final exam. Try to view it as an opportunity to show what you've been doing and to play for an educated audience. The jury typically consists of a solo, an assigned etude, scales (chosen by the jury) and sightreading appropriate to the level

As departmental policy, all major scales and arpeggios are expected for MUS 107. ALL forms of minor scales and arpeggios are expected in MUS 207 and beyond.

General Requirements (see checklists for specifics):

MUS 105, Preparatory Applied. This course number is for students whom the audition committee sees as talented and promising, but not quite up to the level expected of an incoming freshman. It is often offered to students with little previous private instruction and represents a chance to catch up quickly. We have had many students who have gone from this to do excellent work in college and professionally. A jury determines whether the student may advance to MUS 107.

MUS 107, first semester freshman. The first step up the ladder. The first semester is used to address any deficiencies and begin focused practice.

MUS 107, second semester freshman. The final jury also serves as a qualifying examination. It is possible to pass the course, but fail the qualifying exam.

MUS 207, first semester sophomore. This should emphasize acquisition of technical proficiency and development of repertoire.

MUS 207, second semester sophomore. A continuation of the above. Advancement to 363 requires successful completion of a public Junior Qualifying Recital.

MUS 307, first semester junior. By this time the student should have a good technical command of the instrument and be able to perform publicly with confidence. Emphasis will be placed on development of repertoire.

MUS 307, second semester junior This semester focuses primarily on preparation of a recital. For the BSEd this is the Senior Exam, or final recital. The BM Applied requires successful completion of MUS 305 Junior Recital.

MUS 407, first semester senior. This is the last chance to polish technique and explore repertoire.

MUS 407, second semester senior. The BM Applied requires MUS 405 Senior Recital. This will occupy most of your time and energy.

MUS 612, graduate level applied. A high degree of independence and initiative is expected. All major technical deficiencies should be deal with during the first semester. Remaining study should focus on repertoire and performance practice.

Grading:

Your final grade is derived from your lesson grades, the check sheet and your jury grade as follows:

Lesson Grades 60%

Check Sheet 15%

Jury Grade 25%

Total: 100%

The non-graded requirements (public performance, attendance at lessons, principal's class, and flute recitals) may each lower your grade by one letter if not met.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Western Carolina University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities. Students who require disability services or reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Services. All information is confidential. Please contact Kimberly Marcus for more information. Phone: (828) 227-7234; E-mail: kmarcus@email.wcu.edu.