

MUSIC 650-01, Advanced Flute Repair – Dr. Eldred Spell

PURPOSE AND INTENT:

MUS 650 is intended to prepare you, over four semesters, to overhaul and perform basic repairs on student and handmade flutes. This will include an overview of the materials and methods of construction, as well as preventative maintenance and fixes for common problems.

A principal objective will be the development of critical skills in problem solving. No two flutes are alike and no set of simple procedures will work in all cases.

OBJECTIVES – As a result of this course, students will:

1. become acquainted with the materials, methods of construction, and established maintenance and repair techniques appropriate for different types of flute.
2. learn maintenance skills to reduce the need for repairs.
3. be able to quickly identify commonly encountered problems
4. be able to differentiate between those problems which they are capable of solving and those which must be referred to a more qualified specialist (first, do no harm).
5. develop a vocabulary with which to discuss common repairs. This is essential for interaction with other repair technicians and supply companies.
6. acquire skills and techniques to repad and perform basic repairs on student and handmade flutes

GRADING

Your final grade will be based on class participation and successful completion of one or more projects. In order to receive an A, you should attend all classes, participate enthusiastically, complete all assignments on time and without errors or defects. While you may work during class, class time is primarily for the transfer of information and skills. Listen carefully, ask questions, and be prepared to try new things. Flute repair is usually tedious, often frustrating, and ultimately VERY REWARDING.

ATTENDANCE: This is mandatory, and don't be late.

REPAIR PROJECT: This must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find an appropriate instrument. If you are unable to find one on your own, ask for help. You should bring this to each class, with questions about what you are doing and difficulties you have encountered.

EXPECTATIONS:

1. Regular attendance and enthusiastic participation
2. Maturity and Independence – you must learn to work on your own, without outside motivation. We will always have folks working at different levels. This worked in the old one room school house and it works here. By the time you finish four semesters, you will have heard the same topics discussed several times, usually with different emphases. Listen carefully each time, there is always more to learn.
3. Inquisitiveness – if you don't ask questions, you will not learn. I am easy to find. Don't wait between sessions to ask a question. Hunt me down and demand answers.
4. SAFETY – we will be working with sharp objects, open flame, and dangerous chemicals.

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.