SAXOPHONE STUDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
MVW1415, MVW 2425, MVW 3435, MVW 4445, MVO 6460  
2013-2014 Academic Year – Fall Syllabus  
Studio Class/Lecture: Monday, 6th period, MUB 120  
Lessons: tba, MUB 307  
Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Helton  
Phone: (352) 273-3179  
Email: jhelton@ufl.edu  
Office: Music Building, Room 307  
Office Hours: As posted, and by appointment.  
Studio Web Page: http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music/saxophone

DESCRIPTION
Saxophone study at the University of Florida includes several components designed to prepare the student for the rigors of a teaching and performing career in music. Qualified music minors are also encouraged to participate. All students in the studio will take part in the following:

Private lessons with Dr. Helton (or in the case of music minors, with one of the graduate assistants) will take place weekly. Individual instruction will include the development of a comprehensive saxophone technique to enable the student to progress most efficiently. The student will gain a broad knowledge of the saxophone repertoire in the preparation of several performances and recitals. Teaching techniques will also be studied, especially as related to teaching the technique of the saxophone and musical communication.

Studio classes will be held weekly. Studio class time will consist of student performances, master classes and pedagogical and performance-related presentations and discussion. Typical topics of study will include: Performance issues (working with an accompanist, chamber music preparation and performance, orchestral playing, and concerto performances), how to practice, reed making and adjusting, repair and maintenance of the instrument, repertoire for the saxophone, saxophone quartet repertoire, rehearsal techniques, recital preparation, foreign study, pedagogy, and an overview of professional performing and teaching opportunities.

Solo performances are required of each student in the studio. One performance is required each semester in an Area Recital, Convocation, Guest Master Class, or solo student recital. Students will also perform in a Studio Class each semester, as assigned. Practical performance experience is essential to the development of a strong performing musician.

Performance examinations (juries) will take place at the end of each semester. You will be responsible for a program of repertoire and etudes studied during the current semester. Additional requirements will be added for the Pre-Professional Jury, and for recital permission juries.

Student recitals are required of all music majors in the junior and senior years. Additional non-required recitals are encouraged. Graduate students are encouraged to perform one recital during each year of residence.

Graduate pedagogy seminar will meet regularly to discuss teaching techniques, method books, Repertoire, and job strategies. Graduate students will be expected to be active in teaching activities throughout their course of study.

Large ensemble participation is required during each semester of applied music registration, as space allows, and as assigned by the ensemble directors. It is expected that you will make a positive contribution to the ensemble to which you are assigned. Make the most of this opportunity.
OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this course of study (four years for undergraduates, two years for graduates), the student should have a solid command of the technique of the saxophone, and be able to apply the practice and study techniques learned here in preparing new repertoire. The student should know a certain canon of saxophone repertoire well enough to: identify particular performance problems in the works, know a few details of the composer's life, know the form of the works, and be familiar with the musical language of the pieces. The student will also gain first-hand knowledge of a wide variety of performing situations. He/she should be able to anticipate problems which might be encountered in these situations, and provide well thought-out approaches to solving these problems. The student will learn effective practice techniques, and will know basic pedagogical approaches to teaching the fundamentals of saxophone playing.

MATERIALS
Students will be required to purchase etude books and music for use in lessons, as assigned. Reeds, mouthpieces, metronomes, and other equipment may also need to be purchased. A professional quality instrument (alto saxophone) is required for music majors and is strongly suggested for music minors.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance at lessons and studio class meetings is mandatory. Occasionally, a lesson may be rescheduled at the discretion of the instructor and if time allows. Advance notice must be given for any rescheduling. Make-up and rescheduled lessons that are missed will not be made up. Requests for unavoidable absences from lessons or studio classes must be submitted to the instructor in writing (email is fine) for prior approval.

EVALUATION
Studio Grades will be based on the following weighting system:
Preparation for lessons 55
Attendance at saxophone recitals/concerts/master classes 25
Required solo performance 10
Studio class/Area recital attendance 10
Composer/Repertoire Report (Spring); Etude Performance (Fall) 5
Juried Performance Exam 5

Attendance is required at the following saxophone events:
- September 8, 4:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Chamber Music Concert.
  Dr. Helton performs music for saxophone, cello, and piano.
- September 17, 7:30 pm, MUB 101. Faculty Chamber Music Concert
  Dr. Helton performs more music for saxophone, cello, and piano.
- November 18, 7:30 pm, MUB 101. Saxophone Ensembles Concert

Upcoming notable events
January TBA. Fairfax, Virginia, US Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium

Grading Scale
94-100 A
91-93 A-
88-90 B+
84-87 B
81-83 B-

78-80 C+
74-77 C
71-13 C-
68-70 D+
61-67 D

Disclaimer
Course schedule and content subject to change.
Academic Honor Policy
It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior concerning your work in this class. Students are expected to do their own work, use their own words in papers, and to reference outside sources appropriately. Failure to uphold the standards of academic honesty will result in the appropriate disciplinary action. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University." We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities:
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES SUMMARY, ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES
I. Performance
* You must be prepared for your lessons. Daily practice is essential.
* You must sign up for and present a solo performance each semester. (Music majors must perform on one of the Area Recitals, Guest Master Classes or Convocations. Music minors must perform in studio class or on an area recital, as assigned.)
* You must perform in studio class, if assigned. (Master classes, required etude performance, etc.)
* Unless specifically indicated, all required performances must be accompanied. Pianist’s expenses are the student’s responsibility.

II. Performance Exams/Juries
Juries: December 10 and 12

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS
Repertoire
A minimum of two separate solo works for saxophone should be studied each semester. At least one of these should be a major work (sonata, concerto, or other extended work). During a year in which the student is preparing a recital, more repertoire will be required.
Approximately 10 etudes should be perfected each semester. During semesters in which the student is preparing a recital, fewer etudes will be required.

Technique
Scales should make marked improvement each semester. In order to stay on schedule, at least one set of twelve scales/intervals should be checked off (in sixteenth-notes at 152) each semester. Additional sets should be learned over winter and summer breaks.

Practice
Regular practice will be required to meet the above expectations. Daily practice is best. Performance majors will want to practice at least 3 hours per day. Other music majors should plan on at least 2 hours per day. Music minors will need at least one hour per day to succeed in studio. Graduate students will want to practice more. Progress is made in the practice room. The more you practice the easier it is to play the instrument. Also remember, somewhere else there are saxophonists who are practicing. Don’t let them pass you up.
Saxophone Studio Class
Weekly Schedule

Fall 2013

Week 1 — August 26. Introduction to the Course. Clinic: “Scales, Scales, Scales”

Week 2 — September 2. Holiday, no classes.

Week 3 — September 9. Area Recital

Week 4 — September 16. Studio Master Class

Week 5 — September 23. Area Recital

Week 6 — September 30. Etude Performances / Stage Presence

Week 7 — October 7. Area Recital

Week 8 — October 14. Workshop: “Reeds”

Week 9 — October 21. Area Recital

Week 10 — October 28. Graduate Student Master Class

Week 11 — November 4. Area Recital

Week 12 — November 11. Holiday, no classes.

Week 13 — November 18. Area Recital

Week 14 — November 25. Studio Class Recital

Week 15 — December 2. Semester Wrap-Up

Juries: December 9 and 11

Dates and class content subject to change.

Rev 8/12/13