

Degree Program Guidelines

Bachelor of Arts in Music, Woodwinds

The following is an explanation of the expectations and procedures for students seeking the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music with a concentration in the woodwind applied area. The motivation behind the requirements set forth within these guidelines is the desire of the Arkansas State University Music Department to ensure that the graduates have various career opportunities as well as studying music in combination with other subjects. The BA degree provides versatility in coursework and is not intended as preparation for graduate study in music, although it can successfully serve this purpose. It is neither designed to produce professional musicians, rather, an exploration of this possibility. These criteria pertain to students entering the BA in Music program whose applied area of concentration is woodwinds at ASU during the Fall of 2010 or thereafter.

LEVELS OF STUDY

The applied requirements for all BA students are to complete 9 credit hours of study. Incoming students will begin with MUSP 1111 or 1112. The appropriate level of study based upon the student's talent, work ethic and degree of advancement will be designated by the major applied teacher.

Lower Level (MUSP 1111 and 1112)

Appropriate for all beginning freshmen and others who have not yet passed the **Proficiency Exam**.

Upper Level (MUSP 3111, 3112)

This level is for students who have passed the **Proficiency Exam** after at least 6 credit hours of study on their major instrument.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

Repertoire will be assigned based on the musical and technical skills and needs of the individual student. The level of preparation and performance will be reflected in the final grade each semester.

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

All students will perform at least once on Student Recital per semester. Students in their first semester of study may be excused from this requirement at the discretion of the professor.

Performance in studio class and other venues may be required by the professor.

Student Recitals involve all applied areas and occur periodically in the Recital Hall on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. The format is a traditional recital for which the appropriate attire is required. All performances require consent of the major applied teacher by filling out the *Tuesday Morning Recital Form* found on the ASU Music Department Website under *Important Links*.

Studio Class – The major professor may require attendance and performance at Studio Class or other master classes.

Final Performance Exam (Jury)

At the end of each semester of woodwind study, students will perform a **Final Exam (Jury)** before the woodwind faculty or **Jury Committee**. The number of works offered will coincide directly with the minimum repertoire requirements for the semester. The Jury Committee will select the appropriate number of pieces from the repertoire list to be performed. For the typical Jury, a grade will be given by each faculty member, the average of which will be the jury grade. An Applied Lesson Record will be presented to the Jury Committee by each teacher. After a brief discussion, a final grade will be determined by the major applied teacher based on the jury grade, input from the Jury Committee and the student's progress throughout the semester. Attributes of a fine jury performance demonstrate mastery of style, interpretation, stage presence, and emotional expression. Exceptions to the jury requirement for Bachelor of Arts in Music majors include students giving a junior or senior recital that semester, or those attempting to pass the **Proficiency Exam** (see next section).

Proficiency Exam: Bachelor of Arts in Music, Woodwind Area

Admittance to the Upper Level of Applied Lessons (MUSP 3112) will not be granted until the **Proficiency Exam** has been successfully completed. Minimum expectations include demonstration of certain musical skills and reasonable development while performing literature which the woodwind faculty deems appropriate. The Proficiency Exam is typically taken during finals week of the 6th credit hour of applied study.

The Proficiency Exam will consist of a 10-minute audition with a majority of the woodwind faculty present. A complete list of the student's repertoire from all semesters of undergraduate study will be submitted along with the teacher's statement of recommendation. A majority vote of the woodwind faculty present is required for granting or denying admission to the Upper Level (MUSP 3112). If granted admission, the student will enroll in the Upper Level for the following semester and will proceed through the appropriate courses.

It is possible to receive a passing grade in Applied Lessons (MUSP 1112) and still not pass the Proficiency Exam. All students will remain at this Lower Level for as many semesters as necessary to pass the Proficiency Exam. The Proficiency Exam may be repeated in subsequent semesters until admission is granted. Failed attempts will result in extra semesters of undergraduate enrollment, since a minimum of 7 credit hours of Upper Level (MUSP 3111 and 3112) applied study on the major instrument is required for graduation.

Who may attempt the Proficiency Exam?

ASU students who are at the end of the 6th credit hour of applied study (typically mid-sophomore year)

Transfer students with 6 or more completed credit hours of private study (those with less than 6 credits may attempt the exam at the end of the 6th credit hour of applied study)

ASU students who change their major to Bachelor of Arts in Music from other departments within the university who may have taken 6 or more credit hours of private study on their major instrument prior to becoming a music major

ASU students seeking the Bachelor of Arts in Music degree as a second degree and who may have already taken 6 or more credit hours of private woodwind study prior to beginning the degree program.

Requirements for the Proficiency Exam:

Literature – Repertoire for the Proficiency Exam is at the discretion of the professor. Repertoire presented should be from the current semester. The student's repertoire list (including previous semesters) should include a variety of styles.

Presentation – Each student's performance will be examined for the ability to perform correct pitches, rhythms, and phrases, style, and to perform with accurate intonation at a level which indicates the probability of successful study at the upper level.

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST REQUIREMENTS

All students seeking the BA Degree—Woodwinds will need a pianist with whom to perform for lessons, studio classes, juries, recitals and other performances. Inquire with your teacher regarding available pianists and requirements for the above performance venues. Please check the Music Student Handbook for guidelines.