

***University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill***

**Applied Flute – MUSC 104, Section 2**

**Dr. Nathan S. Zalman**

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**Syllabus - Fall 2009**

**1. Summary**

This document describes studio policies that apply in general to each flute student. It also includes some administrative details and reference information.

**2. Lesson Policies**

Flute lessons start precisely on the hour and last 50 minutes. Be warmed-up ahead of time and ready to begin. Make the most of our time together: be prepared with all of your music and other materials, and with a ready answer to the question “where do we begin?”

Every student will need a metronome, a tuner, and a general-purpose dictionary of musical terms. Advanced students will also need to acquire a French-English, Italian-English, and German-English dictionary (unless, of course, you are fluent in these languages). For specific recommendations for what to get, see the end of this syllabus.

Do not interrupt practice or lessons before your scheduled time, especially if the door is shut and you hear playing or conversation within – let patience and courtesy be your watchwords. Having said this, on the other hand, if you find that you need time to speak to me about something, I will be happy to see you during my office hours, or at some other time that is convenient for both of us. Email is a good way to set this up.

When your lesson time arrives, please knock on the door to let me know that you are there.

**3. Lateness, Absences, and Make-ups**

I do not give makeups for any reason. If you know that you are not going to be able to meet for a lesson, we may be able to reschedule it for another time if you are able to provide sufficient notice (a week for most things, 24 hours in case of sudden illness).

**Do not come to your lesson with cold or flu symptoms.** If you do, I will cancel the lesson and not reschedule it. If you want to know why, see this Wikipedia article on [Atomizer Nozzles](#).

If you are no more than 10 minutes late to your lesson, come anyway. I will not, generally, make up the time. If you are more than 10 minutes late without giving appropriate notice (see below), your lesson will be canceled, and will not be rescheduled except in cases of illness or bereavement.

I will reschedule lessons that I miss for any reason, so long as your final lesson count totals at least thirteen.

Do not email me to tell me that you won't be coming to your lesson. If you need to cancel a lesson, you will need to contact me by telephone. Leave a message if you need to.

Sometimes the previous student's lesson will run overtime. Once in a blue moon I may be briefly delayed at a meeting or for some other reason. If this happens (it happens...), I will extend your lesson appropriately, or, if necessary, reschedule it entirely. For this reason, try not to schedule your lesson immediately before another class.

**It is up to you to contact me to reschedule lessons as necessary.**

#### **4. Grades**

Your grade is arrived at by a determination of your progress during the semester. Indications of progress include completed studies, completed movements of larger works, or completed smaller works, numbers of daily exercises covered, increase of complexity in assigned material over time, and other factors. Your final jury evaluation will be taken into consideration if needed. All things being equal, if your playing is about the same from week to week, you are likely to receive a "C" at the end of the semester, regardless of the level of your playing.

Your teachability, flexibility, and positive attitude will facilitate your progress, as will diligent practice, high levels of preparation for lessons, and overall positive attitude.

#### **5. Practice: Keeping Things in Balance**

Your daily, consistent, patient, and intelligent time with your flute is the most important thing that you can do for yourself as a musician and a flutist. Never let anything come between you and your practice; without it, you will accomplish nothing as a flutist.

Bearing this in mind, and, mindful of the many legitimate demands on your time, you will need to be skillful in order to achieve balance. For this reason I recommend that you schedule your practice as if it were another class, and not let it become something that you will get to eventually. Eventually, you won't get to it as consistently as you will need to in order to make progress. Practice is the most productive when you are rested, alert, and are free to concentrate.

To that end, the generally accepted minimum daily practice required to achieve and maintain a professional level of playing is three hours, six or seven days a week. Assuming that your goals are more modest than this, of course, bear in mind that you probably will not make noticeable progress with less than 60 to 90 minutes per day, and, you personally may need more. Certain kinds of necessary and important physical conditioning cannot take place without the higher levels of time commitment.

It is never necessary, on the other hand, to do all of your practicing in one stretch. Many have found it beneficial to break it up into smaller chunks of time. This also works well for very busy people like us.

## 6. Basic Study Materials

Most students will use these books. Please see me about these before purchasing them, however.

- Moyse, Marcel De La Sonorité (Leduc) ([link to Flute World listing](#))
- Taffanel & Gaubert, Grandes Exercices Journaliers de Mécanisme (Leduc). This is a printing in a separate volume of Part 4 of the Méthod Complète. If you already have the MC, we'll use it instead. ([link to Flute World listing](#))

Everyone needs a metronome/tuner, and some kind of musical dictionary unless you speak French, Italian, and German.

- Combination metronome/tuner ([a link to a unit I recommend, at Musician's Friend](#))
- Dictionary of musical terms ([here's an Amazon.com search to get you started](#))
- [German-English](#), [French-English](#), [Italian-English](#) dictionaries (for advanced students). The links will take you to Amazon.com search pages.

## 7. Contact

If there is any way that I can assist you in making our time together studying the flute more successful, don't hesitate to phone or email me. Because time is short and the studio is full, bear in mind that I may seem slow to respond at times. Please don't let that stop you!