
Welcome to the Bassoon Studio!

MUSP 200-04, MUSP201-04, MUSP 202-4, MUSP 203-04

Fall 2025

Lesson Times: TBD MI 125

Studio Class: Mondays 12pm-1:50pm MU 309

1. Instructor Information

Prof. Joey Lavarias

School of Music

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

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765-285-5473

Office Hours Fridays 11am-12pm and by appointment

2. Course Information

Course Description

One primary instrument/voice lesson per week for students majoring/minoring in music composition, music education, or music technology. Prerequisite: permission of the director of the school. A total of 30 credits may be earned, but no more than 4 in any one semester or term.

Prerequisites

Permission from the director of the school.

Course Objectives

- Develop fundamental bassoon techniques such as proper embouchure/posture, breathing, fingerings, etc. through the repeated use of scales, long tones, and etudes.
- Create and refine bassoon reed blanks using the correct tools/cane.
- Build a repertoire of solo pieces that is both chronologically and stylistically diverse.
- Develop ensemble playing skills such as intonation, tonal blend, and volume control.

Course Modality/Structure

This class will comprise of 2 main parts: individual lessons and studio class.

Individual Lessons - lessons will be conducted in MI 125. We will create a semester-long lesson plan in the first two weeks, with some allowances for flexibility.

Studio Class - Studio class will follow a rotational model with three parts: masterclass, ensemble playing, reed class. There will also be 2 Etude Days and 2 Scale Days.

Etude Day: perform excerpts from 2 etudes of your choice from the Required Etude Books (Weissenborn 50 Advanced Studies, Milde Concert Studies, Giampieri Daily Studies)

Scale Day: perform 3 random scales of my choice. Scale Day #1 is Major/Minor Scales, Scale Day #2 is Chromatic/Other Scales (other scales listed in Course Assignments)

Studio Class Dates (subject to change)

January 5th

January 12th General Recital Hour 1-2pm

January 19th NO CLASS (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration)

January 26th

February 2nd Scale Day#1

February 9th

February 16th Audition Day, General Recital Hour 1-2pm

February 23rd Etude Day #1

March 2-6 NO CLASS (Spring Break)

March 9th

March 16th General Recital Hour 1-2pm

March 23rd

March 30th Scale Day #2

April 6th General Recital Hour 1-2pm

April 13th

April 20th

April 27th (Last Studio Class): ETUDE DAY #2, Honors Convocation 1-2

3. Course Materials

Required Etude Books:

- Julius Weissenborn, ed. Frank Morelli - *The First Complete Weissenborn Bassoon Method and Studies, op. 8, #1 & #2* (Carl Fischer)
- Ludwig Milde - *Concert Studies vol. 1 and 2* (any edition)
- Alamiro Giamipieri - *16 Daily Studies*

Reed Making Materials (These materials do not have to be procured all at once. Items of higher priority will have an asterisk* next to them):

- 6 in ruler*, Long/forming mandrel*, short mandrel*, plaque*, forming OR needle nose pliers*, reed knife, files*, drying rack, wrapping thread, butchers twine*, 22 gauge wire, GSP cane, reed guillotine, fine grit sandpaper

4. Course Assignments and Assessments

Course Assignments

- **Participation/Attendance** - a majority of your grade in this class is based on your attendance and your preparation for both studio class and lessons. You are expected to practice daily. My recommendation is practicing a maximum of 2 hours a day.
- **Final Juries** (Date TBD): perform selections for the woodwind faculty.
- **Etude Day:** on Etude Days, you will perform excerpts from two PREPARED etudes from the Required Etude Books. Selections will be discussed with the instructor. You are required to learn the ENTIRE etude, but the excerpt performed will be at the discretion of the instructor.

- **Scale Day:** perform scales/arpeggios at random.

Course Grading Scale

Participation and Attendance: 50%

Final Jury: 30%

Etude Days: 10%

Scale Days: 10%

(Grading Scale subject to change)

Letter Grade	Range
A	100% - 94%
A-	<94% - 90%
B+	<90% - 87%
B	<87% - 84%
B-	<84% - 80%
C+	<80% - 77%
C	<77% - 74%
C-	<74% - 70%
D+	<70% - 67%
D	<67% - 64%
D-	<64% - 61%
F	<61% - 0%

5. University Policies and Statements

University Statement

We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse.

Disability Statement

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services Office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Freedom of Expression

In this course, we are committed to fostering a learning environment that values intellectual diversity, encourages free expression, and promotes open inquiry. As members of the Ball State Community, we treat each person in the Ball State community with civility, courtesy, compassion, and dignity and respect and learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions. Please review Ball State University's [Statement on Freedom of Expression](#), the resources on Ball State's [Freedom of Expression webpage](#), and [Ball State's Beneficence Pledge](#).

Attendance

You are required to attend all lessons and all studio classes. However, there are always circumstances in which your attendance may be excused. The University Attendance Policy provides a list of valid reasons for an excused absence.

https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/vice-provost/student-services/attendance-policies#ac_cordion_funeralandbereavementleave

I will also allow excused absences for **outside professional opportunities** - if you are invited to participate in a professional engagement (i.e. orchestral gig, conference presentation, etc.) please notify me of dates as soon as you are aware. If you are missing a lesson due to this circumstance, you **MUST** re-schedule the lesson based on your adjusted schedule for that week.

Unexcused Absences: three unexcused absences from EITHER lessons or studio classes will result in a deduction of ONE (1) letter grade.

Title IX

Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit [bsu.edu/titleix](https://www.bsu.edu/titleix) or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at titleix@bsu.edu

As your instructor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment. This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

What happens after I report? The Title IX Coordinator will email the person who experienced sexual harassment (complainant) and invite them to schedule a meeting. If the complainant **chooses** to meet with the Title IX Coordinator,

- Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures (e.g., counseling, extensions on deadlines, course-related adjustments, changes to work or class schedules, and/or referrals to campus offices), review the policy, and discuss options to move forward.
- If a complaint is filed by the complainant or the University, an investigation will begin following University policy.

University Grade Appeal Policy

If you believe you received a final course grade that does not reflect your performance due to fairness or a procedural issue, you have the right to file an appeal within 5 school days after final grades are posted by the Office of the Registrar. Review the [University Grade Appeal Policy and Process.](#)]

Student Academic Ethics Policy

Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Academic dishonesty and other forms of academic misconduct threaten the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and will not be tolerated. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity. Visit the VPAA's [academic integrity website](#) (Students tab) for resources on understanding academic integrity, citing sources properly, and avoiding inadvertent academic dishonesty. To learn about BSU's academic integrity expectations and students' rights, please read the University [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).

Academic integrity violations include giving or receiving an unfair academic advantage (cheating), presenting someone else's ideas or work as your own (plagiarism), and falsifying academic records. Unless otherwise indicated, you must work independently by yourself. Check with me if you are unsure whether something constitutes academic dishonesty. Examples of academic integrity violations include but are not limited to:

- Using resources not authorized by the faculty member (including devices, AI tools, hidden notes, and open books)
- Using commercial study websites to find answers to graded assignments (Chegg, Course Hero, StudyPool, OneClass, etc.).
- Without the instructor's written permission, giving away, buying, or selling graded assignments class notes, exams, study guides, or other course materials to other students or to third-party vendors (Course Hero, Chegg, 24HourAnswers, etc.).
- Working with another person on any assignment other than authorized group projects.
- Sharing or allowing others to access your files, whether done with permission or not.
- Reusing your own work from another semester, course, or section.
- Sharing answers with others during exams (passing notes, texting, whispering, gesturing)
- Discussing exam questions and answers with students who have not taken the exam.
- Soliciting others to complete work for you.

Generative AI Statement

[It is up to the faculty and/or their academic unit to determine if, when, and how generative AI use is permitted. It is strongly recommended that faculty clearly communicate their expectations about students' use of AI in their course. Note that many applications (e.g. Grammarly, Microsoft Word, Canva, OneNote, and Evernote) have AI built-in features such as text predictions and AutoComplete as well as

organizing and summarizing information. Below are three potential approaches, published by the [University of Pittsburgh](#), which can be copied verbatim or modified to fit your needs. Faculty are encouraged to engage in dialogue with their students about the use of AI and academic integrity. For AI information, tools, resources, and courses, see [AI Initiatives at BSU](#).]

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

All work conducted and/or submitted in this course must be your own, completed in accordance with the Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#). You may not collaborate with or make use of ChatGPT or any other generative AI applications at any time to develop materials submitted in this course. [Indicate your expectations regarding use of applications with AI built-in features].

Some Use of Generative AI Permitted Under Some Circumstances or With Explicit Permission

During this class, we may use ChatGPT or other generative AI applications. You will be informed as to when, where, and how these tools are permitted to be used, along with guidance for attribution. [Indicate your expectations regarding use of applications with AI built-in features]. Any use outside of this permission constitutes a violation of Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).

Broader Use of Generative AI Permitted/Encouraged Within Specified Guidelines

The use of Generative AI tools, including ChatGPT, is encouraged/permitted in this course for students who wish to use them. You may choose to use AI tools to help brainstorm assignments or projects or to revise existing work you have written. [Indicate your expectations regarding use of applications with AI built-in features]. However, you must cite any AI-generated material that informed your work. Using an AI tool to generate content without proper attribution constitutes a violation of Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).]

6. Canvas and Student Privacy

Canvas Accessibility

Canvas provides a user experience that is easy, simple, and intuitive. Special attention has been paid to making Canvas screen-readable. The Rich Content Editor encourages users to create accessible content pages (i.e. text formatting is accomplished using styles). Canvas is designed to allow limited customization of colors and schemes to be accessible for all users. The National Federation of the Blind granted Canvas the Gold Level Web Certification in 2010.

Find more information by visiting the [Canvas Voluntary Product Accessibility Template \(VPAT\)](#).

FERPA and Privacy

As a student, your educational records are considered confidential. Under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), your records are confidential and protected. Under most circumstances, your records will not be released without your written and signed consent. However, some directory information may be released to third parties without your prior consent unless a written request to restrict this is on file. You can learn more about student rights to privacy by reading [Ball State's FERPA and Privacy and Protection](#).

Video Conferencing Recording

In this class, software may be used to record live class discussions. As a student in this class, your participation in live class discussions may be recorded. These recordings typically will be made available only to students enrolled in the class, to assist those who cannot attend the live session or to serve as a

resource for those who would like to review content that was presented. Students who prefer to participate via audio only will be allowed to disable their video camera so only audio will be captured. Students who prefer to listen only must disable their audio capability and visual camera. If you have concerns, please discuss these options with me.

Plagiarism Detection

The campus subscribes to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service, through Canvas. You may need to submit written assignments to Turnitin. Student work will be used for plagiarism detection and for no other purpose. The student may indicate in writing to the instructor that he/she refuses to participate in the plagiarism detection process, in which case the instructor can use other electronic means to verify the originality of their work.

7. Subject to Change Statement

This syllabus is subject to change.