Course Description: Weekly oboe lessons (13 per semester) of 30 minutes or 1 hour in duration, depending upon major and section. Oboe lessons are intended to develop individual musicianship as demonstrated through solo performance, increase effective artistry in ensemble performance, and provide important individualized instruction on fundamentals of technique, articulation, rhythmic accuracy, phrasing, and interpretation.

Student Learning Outcomes:
- Demonstrate sustained and increasing ability to analyze and solve increasingly challenging technical and musical issues as an oboist
- Demonstrate sustained and increasing ability to make reeds appropriate for etudes, repertoire and ensemble performance
- Demonstrate sustained and increasing ability to play in tune, produce a quality oboe tone, and accurately perform rhythms
- Demonstrate sustained and increasing ability to perform etudes, repertoire and in ensemble while making appropriate stylistic and contextual musical decisions
- Demonstrate sustained and increasing ability to perform scales (major, minors in all forms, modes, whole tone and pentatonic)
- Demonstrate understanding of the historical and theoretical elements of the repertoire performed

Expectations:

Practicing
All oboe students are expected to practice, mindfully, a minimum of 60-90 minutes per day, five days per week. Performance majors are expected to average no less than 12 hours of dedicated practice time per week. Reed making is a separate skill and sufficient time must be allocated to it in addition to practice time.

Reeds
Reed making skills are an important aspect of developing as an oboist. All students must invest in sufficient reed making tools, cane, staples and thread to be able to produce enough reeds to practice and meet their ensemble responsibilities. It is acceptable to perform on high quality commercial reeds, however students may not use poor reeds as an excuse to not complete their practice, ensemble or lesson obligations.

Juries
Each student must perform an end of semester jury before the woodwind faculty as outlined in the Undergraduate or Graduate student handbook. Grading criteria are outlined in the handbook.

Divisionals
See the appropriate music student handbook for information regarding your divisional performance requirements.

Required Materials:
Books - All students will be expected to work on scales, etudes, and a solo work each semester. These assignments will be made by the teacher, taking into account the technical, musical and stylistic needs of each student.

Tuner - sweep meter tuner, capable of generating pitches across the oboe register.

Metronome - daily use of a metronome is expected. You may buy a stand alone metronome, use one that is combined with a tuner, or download an app for your phone.

Instrument - a high quality, professional oboe is needed for all music majors who have oboe as their primary instrument. Lorée is the preferred brand, high resale value and the most used oboe in the U.S. Please work with me if you need to purchase an instrument.

Make-up Lessons:
Lessons will not be made up if the student fails to notify the instructor at least 24 hours in advance by email, text message or voicemail, sudden emergencies being the only exception. Emergencies must be unavoidable, and the instructor reserves the right to determine which excuses are reasonable and which ones are not.

Lessons missed by the instructor will be made up at a mutually agreeable time.

Grading:
Grades are determined in part by the instructor and in part by the woodwind jury panel. My grading standards fall within the following parameters for each lesson.

A   Student has carefully and thoughtfully prepared all assigned materials and displays mastery of assignments. Resulting effort is musically secure and displays command of technical challenges.

B   Student has prepared all assigned materials and displays mastery of most material. Resulting effort is musically secure and displays overall command of technical challenges, although issues remain to be solved such as intonation, rhythm, technique, and/or tone production.

C   Student has prepared assigned materials, but struggles to master important elements (technical, rhythmic, intonation, tone etc.). Resulting effort is insecure and only modest progress is noted.

D   Student has not adequately prepared assigned material. Practice habits are not effective or sustained. An additional lesson at this level will result in the instructor’s overall semester grade being no higher than 70%.

F   Student fails to attend lesson or has not prepared assigned material. Practice habits, as displayed through performance in the lesson, are shoddy. An additional lesson at this level will result in the instructor’s overall semester grade being no higher than 60%.

Additional factors that will influence each student’s grade are: professional behavior, curiosity about learning, stretching oneself beyond the minimum expectation, participation during lessons, attendance at events related to the oboe (outlined by the instructor each semester.)