This syllabus provides saxophone students with the technical and literature requirements for each semester of undergraduate study. The typical saxophone student will progress through four-year studies as follows:

**Freshman:** M250c I & II  
**Sophomore:** M250c III & IV  
**Junior Level Exam**  
**Junior:** M450c I & II  
**Senior:** M450c III & IV

Each semester will include various technical exercises (scales, tonguing, vibrato, patterns, etc.), slow expressive etudes, fast technical etudes, contemporary techniques, orchestral excerpts, and solo literature. In addition to your private studies, participation in chamber groups (saxophone quartet, mixed ensembles) is required.

Any technical requirements requested during a jury are to be performed from memory. Students are expected to demonstrate material from any previous level if requested. Solo literature used during jury or recital performance must be of original manuscript; copies are allowed only if the original score is on order or out of print.

- Divisional performances are graded as pass/fail.
- Scale juries will be performed during the last lesson of each semester.
  - 25% Teacher’s Semester Grade
- Enrollment in Jazz Combo is encouraged for at least one semester.

Each student will receive 13 lessons per semester. Any lesson missed by the instructor will be made up. A lesson missed by a student without an excuse will result in an “F” grade for that week.

Be advised that failure to complete any of the semester requirements may result in an extension of your degree plan.

**Basic materials needed for each lesson:**
1. Professional model saxophone: Selmer, Yamaha, Yanagisawa, etc.
2. Metronome (you must bring to every lesson).
3. Professional mouthpiece: Selmer, Vandoren, Rosseau, etc.
4. Reeds: Vandoren, Traditional Cut 3 1/2 or equivalent.
5. Notebook. I will record your progress, what you need to work on, etc.

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1 The Junior Level Exam must be passed before enrolling in M450c  
2 Performance Majors will perform a Junior Recital (30 Minutes of Music).  
3 Performance Majors will perform a Senior Recital (60 Minutes of Music).
M250c/251c First Semester

*Scales:* All Major, Harmonic-Minor, and Chromatic Scales (in sixteenths)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 100

*Triads:* $\Delta, -, O, +; $ full range (in triplets)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 100

*Etudes:* Minimum of 8 etudes from the following studies:
   - Ferling, *48 Famous Studies for Oboe or Saxophone.*
   - Mule, *18 Exercises after Berbiguier*
   - Gates, *Odd Meter Etudes*
   - Niehaus, *Basic Jazz Conception Volume II*

*Special Studies:* Vibrato, Tonguing, “Voicing” (Sinta/Dabney), Ornamentation.

M250c/251c Second Semester

*Scales:* All Major, Harmonic-Minor, and Chromatic Scales (in sixteenths)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 120

*Triads:* $\Delta, -, O, +; $ full range (in triplets)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 120

*Arpeggios:* $\Delta 7, -7, V7, O7, Ø7; $ full range (in sixteenths)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 120

*Etudes:* Minimum of 8 etudes from the following studies:
   - Ferling, *48 Famous Studies for Oboe or Saxophone.*
   - Mule, *18 Exercises after Berbiguier*
   - Gates, *Odd Meter Etudes*
   - Niehaus, *Intermediate Jazz Conception*

*Special Studies:* Tonguing, “Voicing” (Sinta/Dabney)

M250c/251c Third Semester

*Scales:* All Major, Natural, Harmonic, and Melodic Minor, and Chromatic Scales (in sixteenths)
   All tongued w/patterns @ Quarter-Note = 80 (Please refer to articulation style form)

*Arpeggios:* $\Delta 7, -7, V7, O7, Ø7; $ full range (in sixteenths)
   All tongued w/o patterns @ Quarter-Note = 80

*Etudes:* Minimum of 8 etudes from the following studies:
   - Mule, *53 Studies Volume I*
   - Ronkin, *Orchestral Saxophonist, Vol. I.*
   - Niehaus, *Intermediate Jazz Conception*

*Special Studies:* Tonguing, “Voicing” (Sinta/Dabney)

A performance on a divisional is required.

- All performance majors are required to audition for the SDSU Concerto Competition.
M250c/251c Fourth Semester

Scales: All Major, Natural, Harmonic, and Melodic-Minor, Chromatic, Whole-Tone and Octatonic Scales (in sixteenths)
   All tongued w/patterns @ Quarter-Note = 100 (Please refer to articulation style form)

Arpeggios: ∆7, -7, V7, O7, Ø7; full range (in sixteenths)
   All tongued w/patterns @ Quarter-Note = 100

Etudes: Minimum of 8 études from the following studies:
   Mule, 53 Studies Volume I
   Ronkin, Orchestral Saxophonist, Vol. I
   Ricker, Douze études jazz virtuoses

Special Studies: Tonguing, “Voicing” (Sinta/Dabney)

A performance on a divisional is required.
   • Students who have met or exceeded M250c Fourth Semester requirements will be allowed to take
     the junior level exam. Failure to pass this exam will result in additional semester of study in
     M250c.

M450c/451c First Semester

Scales: All Major and Harmonic Minor Scales in 3rds and 4ths (in sixteenths)
   All tongued @ Quarter-Note = 100

Speed Scales: All Major, Harmonic-Minor, and Chromatic Scales (in sixteenths)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 180-200

Etudes: Minimum of 10 études from the following studies:
   Bozza, 12 Études-Caprices.
   Caravan, Preliminary Studies (Contemporary Techniques)
   Ronkin, Orchestral Saxophonist, Vol. II
   Ricker, Douze études jazz virtuoses

Special Studies: Double Tonguing, Rewoldt, Altissimo Studies

A performance on a divisional is required.
   • All performance majors are required to audition for the SDSU Concerto Competition.
M450c/451c Second Semester

**Scales:** Chromatic Scales in m3, M3, P4, and Dim.5 (in sixteenths)
   All slurred & tongued @ Quarter-Note = 100

**Altissimo Scales:** Major and Harmonic-Minor, G-D (in sixteenths)
   All slurred @ Quarter-Note = 80.

**Etudes:** Minimum of 10 etudes from the following studies:
   Ronkin, *Orchestral Saxophonist, Vol. II.*
   Bozza, *12 Etudes-Caprices.*
   Caravan, *Paradigms I* (Contemporary Techniques)
   Ricker, *Douze études jazz virtuoses*

**Special Studies:** Double Tonguing, *Altissimo Studies*

A Junior Recital (30 Minutes) is required for all BM Performance Majors. All other majors are required to perform on a divisional.

M450c/451c Third Semester

**Scales:** Chromatic Scales in P5, m6, M6, m7, and M7 (in sixteenths)
   All slurred & tongued @ Quarter-Note = 100

**Altissimo Scales:** Major and Harmonic-Minor, G-? (in sixteenths)
   All slurred & tongued @ Quarter-Note = 80.

**Etudes:** Minimum of 10 etudes from the following studies:
   Lacour, *8 Etudes Brilliantes.*
   Londeix, *Nouvelles Etudes.*
   Jazz transcriptions of Charlie Parker, David Sanborn, Dave Koz, etc.

**Special Studies:** Double Tonguing, Slap-Tongue, Circular Breathing, *Altissimo Studies*

A performance on a divisional is required.

- All students are required to audition for the SDSU Concerto Competition.

M450c/451c Fourth Semester (Performance Majors Only)

**Quarter-Tone Scale:** All slurred & tongued (in sixteenths) @ Quarter-Note = 80.

**Altissimo Scales:** Major and Harmonic-Minor, G-2 (in sixteenths)
   All slurred & tongued @ Quarter-Note = 80.

**Etudes:** Minimum of 10 etudes from the following studies:
   Lacour, *8 Etudes Brilliantes.*
   Londeix, *Nouvelles Etudes.*
   Lauba, *Neuf Etudes, Book I: Alto* (Contemporary Techniques)
   Jazz transcriptions of Charlie Parker, David Sanborn, Chris Potter, Joshua Redman, etc.

**Special Studies:** Double Tonguing, Slap-Tongue, Circular Breathing, *Altissimo Studies*

A Senior Recital (60 Minutes) is required for all BM Performance Majors.