

SAXOPHONE

Each band lesson will consist of four elements:

1. Students will perform all of the material they were assigned to prepare.
2. Students will receive feedback about what was good/bad/indifferent about the student's performance. The teacher will evaluate the student's performance using the language and concepts listed in the performance assessment rubric.
3. Students will learn how to do something that they were unable to do when they walked in, whether it be a new concept, refinement of technique, or a new skill.
4. Students will receive a clear assignment of what to prepare for the next lesson.

Grade 5 - 6

1. Know chromatic fingerings from low D to high C.
2. Develop a good embouchure—lower lip curved just enough to cover lower teeth, lips slightly drawn towards center for proper cushion, top teeth rest on mouthpiece, chin relaxed (not pointed), upper lip fully relaxed, corners of mouth in towards center of mouth giving round feeling (think of a draw-string bag), solid shape but not tense.
3. Learn good hand positions.
4. Use long tone and basic register flexibility in daily playing.
5. Learn the proper use of the tongue. Start the tone by releasing the tongue from the reed with a “too” syllable. Be sure to not use too much surface area of the tongue.
6. Practice to control all technical aspects in solid rhythmic contexts.
7. Practice good breathing technique and air support for proper tone quality
8. Have a good posture when playing
9. Establish good practice habits
10. Know good instrument maintenance.
11. Perform solos publicly

12. Use lint-free cloth on weighted string to remove moisture in instrument.

Grade 7-8

1. Know chromatic fingerings from low Bb to High F as well as alternate fingerings.

2. Refine tone quality and develop vibrato.

3. Develop the ability to sustain long tones, slurs, register changes and improve tone quality.

4. Improve clean articulation. Refine legato tongue.

5. Strive for control at faster speeds.

6. Continue to develop solid rhythmic concepts and control.

7. Improve accurate and reliable reading of music. Develop a more self-assured approach to newly assigned music.

8. Continue to refine tone, dynamics, crescendos and diminuendos.

9. Perform solos publicly

10. Use a good mouthpiece (Fobes "Debut", Selmer S-90: 190 Facing, Vandoren Optimum AL 3) and ligature (Rovner dark, Rovner Versa, Vandoren Optimum).

11. Demonstrate consistent air pressure and air volume. Play mouthpiece alone to produce good pitch (Alto-A, Tenor-G, Baritone-D)

13. Continue good breathing technique and air support

14. Continue good practice habits

Grade 9 -12

1. Develop more sophisticated tonal concepts and control, beauty, dynamic flexibility, awareness of perfect intonation

2. Experiment with various techniques to create a mood experience for the listener.
Avoid lackluster mechanical playing
3. Improve proficiency in sight-reading
4. Extend range to altissimo register (Advanced)
5. Perform major solo works publicly

Methods and Materials

Grade 5 – 6

- Student Instrumental Course Book 1 & 2 pub. Warner Bros.

Grades 7 – 8

- Student Instrumental Course Book 2 pub. Warner Bros.
- Intermediate Method for Saxophone pub. Rubank
- Advanced Method vol 1 and vol 2 pub. Rubank

Solo Material -- Grades 7-8

- Master Solos Intermediate Level for Saxophone pub. Hal Leonard
- Rubank Book of Saxophone Solos, Easy/Intermediate Level pub. Rubank
- Classic Festival Solos Vol 1 & 2
- Concert and Contest Collection Voxman pub. Rubank
- Romance Giovannini
- Adagio Cantabile and Presto Haydn-Voxman-Block
- Air Bach-Leeson

Grades 9 – 12

- Advanced Method for Saxophone Vol. 1 and 2 pub. Rubank

Supplemental/Alternative Methods Grades 9-12

- Melodious and Progressive Studies Book 1 and 2, David Hite
- Selected Studies Voxman pub. Rubank
- 40 Etudes Ferling
- Progressive and Varied Etudes Harry Gee
- Universal Method for Saxophone Paul de Ville

Solo Material Grades 9-12

- Concert and Contest Collection Voxman pub. Rubank
- First Concertino Guilhaud pub. Rubank
- 2nd & 6th Sonate Handel pub. Leduc
- Sicilienne Lantier pub. Leduc
- Concertino da Camera Ibert pub. Leduc
- Adagio and Allegro (Sonata No.1) Handel-Gee
- Allegretto Brillante Demersseman pub. Rubank
- Chanson et Passepied Jeanine Rueff pub. Leduc
- Concerto in E Minor Gurewich pub. Rubank
- Aria Bozza pub. Leduc
- Sonata Bernard Heiden pub. Schott
- Rapsodie Debussy pub. Durand
- Introduction and Samba Maurice C. Whitney pub. Bourne
- Scaramouche by Milhaud
- Concerto by Glazunov
- Sonata by Creston