

# Towson University – Department of Music

## Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

### Discipline: JAZZ/COMMERCIAL SAXOPHONE

#### *General Information:*

- The stated proficiencies below apply to all students taking lessons in the particular discipline.
- Level of difficulty for specific repertoire will be adjusted based upon the student's degree program.
- These proficiencies are the minimums for a passing grade in the discipline.
- Any student wishing to take 300-level applied lessons must successfully pass an upper division jury demonstrating the proficiencies as articulated below.

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#### *Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson*

##### *Freshman Level*

- Overtones
- *Top Tones for the Saxophone* (Rascher)
- *Daily Studies for all Saxophones* (Kynaston)
- Major Scales
- Harmonic Minor Scales
- Melodic Minor Scales
- Chromatic Scales, from any pitch
- Blues scales

Chords and Scales: Ionian w/  $\Delta 7$ , Mixolydian w/  $V7$

- Major scales modes

## 1-2-bar Blues

Prepared etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book I* (Snidero), *18 Studies after Berbiguier* (Mule), *48 Etudes* (Ferling/Mule)

### Sophomore Level

- *The Intonation Workbook* (Kynaston)
- *158 Saxophone Exercises* (Rascher)
- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 1* (Bergonzi)
- Major scale intervals
- Major pentatonic scales
- Whole tone scales

Chords and Scales: Dorian w/ min. 7, Locrian w/  $\flat 7$

- Bird Blues
- Rhythm changes
- Transcription as assigned
- Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Etudes – Book I* (Fishman), *Selected Studies* (Voxman), *18 Studies after Berbiguier* (Mule), *Etude Variees* (Campagnoli), *Neuf Etudes Transcendantes* (Samyn)

### Upper Division Jury (end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

### Junior Level

- *Exercices Mecaniques Vol. 1* (Londiex)
- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 2* (Bergonzi)
- Melodic minor scale intervals
- Harmonic minor scale intervals
- Lydian-Dominant scales
- H-W Diminished scales

Chords and Scales: Lydian-Dominant w/ V7+11, Melodic Minor w/ min.  $\Delta 7$

- Substitute chord progressions on the Blues
- Bebop Approach Tones
- Modal tunes

- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book 2* (Snidero), *15 Etudes* (Bach/Callieret), *Etude Variees* (Campagnoli), *24 Easy Atonal Etudes* (Lacour), *28 Etudes-modes de Messiaen* (Lacour), *Exercises Mecaniques Vol. 1* (Londiex)

- Junior Recital (required based upon degree program)

### Senior Level

- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 3 & 4* (Bergonzi)
- *Saxophone High Tones* (Rousseau)
- Minor pentatonic scales
- Altered scales
- Augmented scales
- Lydian-Augmented scales

Chords and Scales: Locrian#2 w/  $\Delta 7+2$ , Altered w/  $V7b5b9$  &  $V7+5+9$

- Giant Steps chord progressions
- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book 3* (Snidero), *Paradigms I* (Caravan), *15 Concert Etudes* (Koechlin), *22 Dodecaprices* (Lacour), *Exercises Mecaniques Vol. 2* (Londiex)

- Senior Recital (required based upon degree program)

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## Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson

### Freshman Level

- Overtones
- *Top Tones for the Saxophone* (Rascher)
- *158 Saxophone Exercises* (Rascher)
- *The Intonation Workbook* (Kynaston)
- *Daily Studies* (Teal)
- *Daily Studies for all Saxophones* (Kynaston)

- Major scales and intervals
- Harmonic Minor scales and intervals
- Melodic Minor scales and intervals
- Chromatic, from any pitch
- Blues scales and its possible applications
- Major pentatonic scales
- Whole tone scales

Chords and Scales: Ionian w/  $\Delta 7$ , Mixolydian w/  $V7$ , Dorian w/ min. 7, Locrian w/ min. 7, Locrian w/  $\emptyset 7$

- Diatonic 7<sup>th</sup> chords
- Major scale modes
- 12-bar Blues
- Bird Blues
- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book 1* (Snidero), *Jazz Etudes – Book 1* (Fishman), *18 Studies after Berbiguier (Mule)*, *48 Etudes* (Ferling/Mule), *15 Etudes* (Bach/Caillieret), *24 Caprices-etudes – for Flute* (Boehm), *24 Easy Atonal Etudes* (Lacour), *Selected Studies* (Voxman), *Neuf Etudes Transcendantes* (Samyn)

Woodwind doubling: Flute basics

### Sophomore Level

- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 1 & 2* (Bergonzi)
- Major scales and extended intervals
- Harmonic minor scales and extended intervals
- Melodic minor scales and extended intervals
- Minor pentatonic scales
- H-W Diminished scales

Chords and Scales: Lydian w/  $\Delta 7+11$ , Melodic Minor w/ min.  $\Delta 7$ , Locrian #2 w/  $\emptyset 7+2$ , Lydian Dominant w/  $v7+4$

- Substitute chord progressions on the Blues
- Bebop Approach Tones

- Rhythm changes
- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book 2* (Snidero), *Jazz Etudes – Book 2* (Fishman), *Etude Variees* (Campagnoli), *Seize etudes de perfectionnement* (Ruggiero, Guiseppe), *28 Etudes-modes de Messiaen* (Lacour), *Exercises Mecaniques Vol. 1* (Londiex)

Woodwind Doubling: Clarinet basics, flute/clarinet techniques and duets

Upper Division Jury (end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years.

### Junior Level

- *Saxophone High Tones* (Rousseau)
- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 3 & 4* (Bergonzi)
- Augmented scales
- Melodic minor scale modes, focusing on Lydian- Augmented (3<sup>rd</sup> Melodic Minor mode)

Chords and Scales: Altered w/  $v7b5b9$  &  $v7+5_9$ , Lydian-Augmented w/  $\Delta7+5+11$

- Non-functional chord progressions
- Patterns from *Thesaurus of Scales and Melodic Patterns* (Slonimsky)
- Giant Steps chord progressions
- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conception – Book 3* (Snidero), *Jazz Etudes – Book 3*, (Fishman), *Paradigms II* (Caravan), *12 Etudes Melodiques* (Demersseman), *25 Etudes and Sonata* (Karg-Elert), *15 Concert Etudes* (Koechlin), *22 Dodecaprices* (Lacour). *28 Etudes* (Lacour), *Exercises Mecaniques Vol. 2* (Londiex)

Woodwind doubling: Flute/clarinet etudes and duets

- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

### Senior Level

- *Inside Improvisation, Vol. 6* (Bergonzi)
- *Twelve-Tone Improvisation: A Method for Using Tone Rows in Jazz* (O'Gallagher)
- Harmonic minor scales modes, focusing on Phrygian-Dominant (5<sup>th</sup> Harmonic Minor mode)

Chords and scales: Phrygian Dominant w V7\_5b9 Diminished Harmony

- Compositions of Wayne Shorter
- Transcription as assigned

Etudes as assigned: *Jazz Conceptions – Book* (Snidero)

Woodwind Doubling: Flute/clarinet repertoire, show excerpts; bass clarinet and piccolo basics

- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)