

---

# The Study of Saxophone Year 7

Bachelor's Degree ("Licence") · First Higher Cycle (Years 4 to 7). A Nine-Year Course of Study for the Modern Saxophonist-Doubler — Saxophone, Flute & Clarinet.

# What Year 7 asks

## EXAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Sight-Reading exam
2. Performance of selected piece for Saxophone and Piano or Solo Saxophone
3. Performance of a piece chosen by the saxophonist (Year 7 and above)

## THE YEAR

October to July, in two semesters.

Mid-term exam: early March.

Final exam: early July.

Daily practice: 4 to 5 hours a day (from the Fourth Year on, 3 to 6 hours a day; at least three hours on a bad day).

"4 to 5 hours a day is what the expectation would be for those degrees anywhere in the world, and that should be the standard, and ... it gets progressively more serious."

Saxophone students are required to complete the listed methods and satisfactorily present the required scale and arpeggio materials during each school year. Ten compositions will be chosen from each repertoire list and developed to a performance level. Repertoire for the jury examination should be selected in consultation with the student's teacher. Pieces not listed may be studied and performed with the permission of the teacher. Extensive participation in a saxophone quartet and with other instruments in the performance of chamber music and large wind ensemble is requisite for students who have attained an acceptable performance level.

The Study of Saxophone · Desired Competencies

# Scales in the app

1

Practice this year in The Whole Horn

Open in the app

# Methods

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

## Core Methods

Porret, 24 Déchiffrages (B)  
Sousman, 30 Grands Exercices en 2 Cahiers  
Piazzolla, Tango Etudes  
Rousseau, High Tones for Saxophone  
Seffer, Improvisations et Modes — Etudes sur des Modes Grecs

## Additional Methods

Bozza/Mule, 12 Etudes Caprices  
28 Etudes on Modes with Limited Transpositions (after Messiaen)  
Reeves, Creative Jazz Improvisation  
Londeix, Hello Mr. Sax  
Londeix, Les Gammes Conjointes et en Intervalles  
Coker, Patterns for Jazz

# Methods in the app

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

1

Seffer, Improvisations et Modes — Etudes sur des Modes Grecs

Greek modes: Ionian and Dorian, all 12 keys · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app (the etudes are in the book)

Open in the app

2

Seffer, Improvisations et Modes — Etudes sur des Modes Grecs

Greek modes: Phrygian and Lydian, all 12 keys · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app (the etudes are in the book)

Open in the app

3

Seffer, Improvisations et Modes — Etudes sur des Modes Grecs

Greek modes: Mixolydian and Aeolian, all 12 keys · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app (the etudes are in the book)

Open in the app

4

Seffer, Improvisations et Modes — Etudes sur des Modes Grecs

Greek modes: Locrian, all 12 keys · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app (the etudes are in the book)

Open in the app

5

28 Etudes on Modes with Limited Transpositions (after Messiaen)

Messiaen's modes 1 and 2: whole-tone and diminished (half-whole) · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app

Open in the app

# Repertoire

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

## Core Repertoire

Milhaud, Scaramouche for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Glazounov, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Naules, Frissons for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Tomasi, Ballade for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Bach, 5ème Sonate No. 52 for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Faillenot, Rhapsodie Occitane for Alto Saxophone and Piano

## Additional Repertoire (1 of 2)

Absil, Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Anderson, Sonata for Baritone Saxophone and Piano  
Bach, Sonata in A minor for Solo Flute  
Badings, Malinconia for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Bonneau, Caprice en Forme de Valse for SOLO Saxophone  
Boutry, Divertimento for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Bozza, Concertino for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Bozza, Improvisation et Caprice for SOLO Saxophone  
Cowell, Air and Scherzo for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Creston, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Daneels, Suite for SOLO Saxophone  
Debussy, Rapsodie for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Dubois, Circus Parade for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Dubois, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Dubois, Pièces Caractéristiques en Forme de Suite for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Dubois, Sonate for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Eychenne, Sextet including Alto Saxophone (Chamber Ensemble)  
Gotkovsky, Brilliance for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Grundman, Concertante for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Heiden, Diversion for Alto Saxophone and Band  
Husa, Elégie et Rondeau for Alto Saxophone  
Ibert, Concertino da Camera for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Karg-Elert, 25 Capricen und Sonate for SOLO Saxophone  
Koechlin, Sonatine, Op. 194/2, for Alto Saxophone and Piano

# Repertoire

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

## Additional Repertoire (2 of 2)

Marcello, Oboe Concerto for SOLO Soprano Saxophone  
Martin, Ballade for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Maslanka, Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Maurice, Tableaux de Provence for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Morosco, Blue Caprice for SOLO Alto Saxophone (Classical and Jazz)  
Muczynski, Sonata, Op. 29, for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Pascal, Sonatine for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Planel, Suite Romantique for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Robert, Cadenza for SOLO Alto Saxophone  
Rueff, Chanson et Passepied for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Rueff, Sonata (Leduc) for SOLO Alto Saxophone  
Ryo Noda, Improvisations for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Ryo Noda, Mai for SOLO Saxophone  
Scelsi, Tre Pezzi for SOLO Saxophone  
Schmitt, Légende for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Schulhoff, Hot Sonate for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Singelée, Fantasia, Op. 89, for Soprano Saxophone and Piano  
Smith, Fantasia for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Tcherepnin, Sonatine Sportive for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Tomasì, Ballade for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Veidhuis, Grab It for SOLO Tenor Saxophone  
Villa-Lobos, Fantasia for Saxophone and Small Orchestra  
Williams, Escapades for Alto Saxophone and Piano  
Yuyama, Divertimento for Marimba and Alto Saxophone

# The Year 7 Diploma (Licence)

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

## Dissertation

5,000-word dissertation on all things related to the instrument. The precise subject will be imposed by the instructor. (12 pages maximum.)

## The recital program

A recital program (to be imposed by the instructor) must include:

Two pieces written for Saxophone and Piano

One work for Solo Saxophone

One work for Musique de Chambre (Chamber Music)

A Contemporary Work for Saxophone incorporating modern techniques: multiphonics, harmonics, contemporary techniques, and written instructions for unusual sounds and effects specific to the saxophone

A Technical, Atonal Etude

# The Year 7 Diploma (Licence) in the app

The Study of Saxophone · Year 7

1

A Contemporary Work for Saxophone incorporating modern techniques: multiphonics, harmonics, contemporary techniques, and written instructions for unusual sounds and effects specific to the saxophone  
Harmonics: Overtones & voicing (the harmonics half of this line; the work itself is repertoire)

Open in the app

# Desired Competency

Years 4 to 8

## Deepening skills acquired in the Preparatory Cycle

air column / breathing  
development of a personal, mature sound  
articulation  
rhythmic, digital and timbral homogeneity  
accuracy  
flexibility  
nuance  
intonation  
vibrato

## And

Fluidity of technique as well as knowledge of alternative fingerings.  
Ability to play "extreme" nuance, to tune alone, to control and correct intonation.  
Ability to memorize music.  
Sight-reading at the level of "working musicians."  
Knowledge, technical facility, and musical maturity in contemporary music.  
Understanding and application of the wide variety of music notation in contemporary music.  
Knowledge and practice of chord-scale relationships; Jazz improvisation.  
Listening skills, Jazz phrasing, memorization of easy jazz standards, and the ability to transcribe solos.  
The history of the saxophone, the different epochs and styles, and important figures.  
Understanding and application of descriptive and analytical vocabulary.  
Ensemble performance — piano accompaniment — chamber music — ensemble of saxophones — orchestra, Jazz combos and Jazz ensembles — knowing how to conduct a set and a rehearsal.  
Perform in public as a soloist.  
Participate on a stage.  
Promote general musical culture by listening to and performing music of all kinds.

# Desired Competency in the app

Years 4 to 8. Each link opens in The Whole Horn, written for the student's own saxophone.

1

air column / breathing  
Long tones: breathing and one steady note

[Open in the app](#)

2

development of a personal, mature sound  
Long tones, then Overtones & voicing

[Open in the app](#)

3

articulation  
The Milestone (articulation) · ♩ =60

[Open in the app](#)

4

rhythmic, digital and timbral homogeneity  
All 12 Major scales in quarters, eighths, triplets and 16ths · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app

[Open in the app](#)

# Desired Competency in the app

Years 4 to 8. Each link opens in The Whole Horn, written for the student's own saxophone.

5

flexibility  
Overtones & voicing

Open in the app

6

nuance  
Long tones: soft → full → soft (messa di voce)

Open in the app

7

intonation  
Long tones, then Lock-On (tune two tones until the beating stops), level 1

Open in the app

8

vibrato  
Vibrato

Open in the app

# Desired Competency in the app

Years 4 to 8. Each link opens in The Whole Horn, written for the student's own saxophone.

9

Ability to play "extreme" nuance, to tune alone, to control and correct intonation.  
Long tones (nuance), then Lock-On (tuning alone), level 1

[Open in the app](#)

10

Knowledge and practice of chord-scale relationships; Jazz improvisation.  
Chord-scale: the ii-V-I, then its scales: Dorian (ii), Mixolydian (V), Major (I), all 12 keys · ♩ =60 · full range · Full Studio; two octaves on the free app on the scales

[Open in the app](#)

11

Listening skills, Jazz phrasing, memorization of easy jazz standards, and the ability to transcribe solos.  
Listening: Name It (hear two notes or a chord, name it), level 1

[Open in the app](#)

12

Listening skills, Jazz phrasing, memorization of easy jazz standards, and the ability to transcribe solos.  
Listening: Chord Colors (hear a chord, name its color), level 1

[Open in the app](#)

# The whole course

This is one year of The Study of Saxophone. The whole course, from the Preparatory Year to Year 9, is on [thewholehorn.com](http://thewholehorn.com).

**This is a living framework. Use it as a foundation, adapt it to your context, and revise it as new resources emerge.**

[thewholehorn.com/study-of-saxophone](http://thewholehorn.com/study-of-saxophone)