
The Study of Saxophone Year 8

Jazz Studies & Ensemble Leadership · Second Higher Cycle (Years 8 and 9). A Nine-Year Course of Study for the Modern Saxophonist-Doubler — Saxophone, Flute & Clarinet.

What Year 8 asks

EXAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Sight-Reading exam
2. Performance of a Chamber Music composition directed by the saxophonist
3. Performance of selected piece for Saxophone and Piano
4. Performance of Etudes from selected method: Boehm

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).

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 8

Core Methods

Fürstenau/Mule, 53 Etudes d'Après Boehm (en 3 Cahiers)

Lacour, 28 Etudes sur les Modes à Transposition

Françoise, 22 Déchiffrages

Additional Methods

Bozza, 12 Etudes Caprices for Saxophone

Caravan, Preliminary Exercises and Etudes in Contemporary Techniques for Saxophone

Methods in the app

The Study of Saxophone · Year 8

1

Lacour, 28 Etudes sur les Modes à Transposition

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

Open in the app

Repertoire

The Study of Saxophone · Year 8

Core Repertoire

Maurice, Tableaux de Provence for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Sancan, Lamento et Rondo for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Tomasi, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Dubois, Divertissement for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Desenclos, Prélude, Cadence et Final for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Ibert, Prélude for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Additional Repertoire (1 of 2)

Ackermans, Petite Fantaisie Italienne for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Albright, Sonata for Saxophone and Piano
Berio, Sequenza IXb for SOLO Alto Saxophone
Bolcom, Lilith for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Bonneau, Suite for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Bozza, Aria for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Charpentier, Gavambodi 2 for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Decruck, Sonata Ut for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Demersseman, Carnaval de Venise for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Denisov, Concerto Piccolo for 4 Saxophones Successive and Percussion
Denisov, Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Desenclos, Prélude, Cadence et Finale for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Dubois, Saxophone Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano
Feld, Elégie for Soprano Saxophone and Piano

Repertoire

The Study of Saxophone · Year 8

Additional Repertoire (2 of 2)

Grovlez, Sarabande et Allegro for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Hindemith, Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Ibert, Concertino da Camera for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Koch, Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Larsson, Konsert for Alto Saxophone and String Orchestra

Laube, Steady Study on the Boogie for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Mackey, Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Wind Orchestra

Martin, Ballade for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Maslanka, Concerto for Saxophone Quartet — Saxophone Quartet

Stockhausen, In Freundschaft for SOLO Saxophone

Tomasi, Evocations for SOLO Alto Saxophone

Woods, Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano

Yoshimatsu, Fuzzy Bird Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano

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.

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