



# Studio Policies

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## About Me

Hi! My name is Michelle Jaluvka and I'm so excited to work with you! I am a second-year Master's student at The University of Oklahoma studying Clarinet Performance and Musicology with a graduate certificate in Women and Gender Studies. I work as a graduate teaching assistant in the clarinet studio and teach lessons to music majors and music minors as well as teaching the clarinet methods course for music education majors. I received my Bachelor's degree in Clarinet Performance from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina in 2020. My teaching philosophy is student-first meaning I want to help students grow as individuals through their music, and this is reflected in the lesson objectives for each student. When I'm not playing or teaching the clarinet, I'm probably buying an overpriced coffee, playing with my 14-year-old cat named Blackberry, or listening to Taylor Swift.

## **Teaching Philosophy**

*Empathy. Humility. Grace.*

These three traits are the backbone of my teaching philosophy.

I strive to be an empathetic educator in order to help students grow to their own unique and individualized potentials. I hope to lead with humility and understand that I may not always have the answers, but will find resources to help students discover them. I am committed to always teaching with grace and respecting that students lead complex lives outside of the clarinet studio.

With these attributes in mind, my ultimate goal is to help students grow and flourish as individuals through their growth as musicians.

### Attendance Policy

If the student contacts Michelle 24 hours or more prior to their lesson, the absence will be excused and she will make every effort to reschedule the lesson within a two-week window. If the student fails to give a day's notice (24 hrs. prior to the start time of the lesson), the lesson will be forfeited and payment will still be expected. Excused absences in which the attendance and payment policies may change are family or medical emergencies, but others may be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### Lesson Rates

\$35 for 30 minutes

\$40 for 45 minutes

\$45 for 1 hour

### Payment Methods

I currently accept payments via cash, checks made out to Michelle Jaluvka, or via Venmo to @mjaluvka. Payments must be made in advance of each lesson. They can be paid in full at the start of the month, or may be paid by the beginning of the student's lesson each week. In the case of unexcused absences, payments should still be made—however, in the case of excused absences, no payment will be expected.

### Lesson Curriculum

Lessons are largely structured uniquely for each student depending on their interests and goals, but there are a few aspects that are universal. Scales and etudes are the most effective methods to learn technical facility and musicality, respectively, and will be frequently assigned in lessons. Students will discuss their musical interests with Michelle and choose appropriate repertoire to study on an individual basis. Michelle can also provide instruction in music theory, aural skills, sightreading, and more.

### Lesson Materials

Required materials are:

- Clarinet in working condition
- 2-3 playable reeds
- Spiral-bound notebook
- Pencil
- Music stand
- Lesson materials as discussed

### Lesson Expectations

I don't expect perfection, but I do expect effort to be put into assigned materials. Students should practice all lesson materials so that they are at a level in which we can make meaningful improvement within the lesson hour. Practice expectations vary by level of experience and musical goals, but students should arrive to lessons with work on the material being evident. If the student has questions or needs tips to practice during the week, they may absolutely email or text me to ask! Similarly, if something comes up which affects practice time, please communicate that with me prior to the lesson so we can adjust the plan in order to be the most beneficial.

**If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out by text, phone call, or email. I want to make this the most positive experience possible for each and every one of my students and their families. I am so excited to work with you!**