

Reed Making 101

Fall Semester

Meeting Date/Time: TBD

Location:

Instructor: Dr. Sara Erb

Email: erbsarac@gmail.com

Purpose/structure: To learn how to make a fully finished reed beginning from gouged pieces of cane. We will go through the process and practice each step of making a blank through the first half of the semester. The second half will focus on the finishing process. Individual reed help with current reeds in your box will be offered at each session. If more help is needed, extra time outside of class can be scheduled.

Materials: Listed separately

Textbook: None needed, though the following may interest you.

- *Bassoon* by William Waterhouse
- *Bassoon Reed Making: A Pedagogical History* by Christin Schillinger
- *Making Reeds Start to Finish with George Sakakeeny* (available as e-book)

Blank Project: During the second quarter, as outlined in the timeline, you will be expected to complete a total of 12 finished reeds by week thirteen. Specific assignment dates are listed in the schedule. Details will be discussed in class.

Reed Journal: You will be expected to keep a journal of your reeds. The template for the journal is provided in this syllabus. Each reed gets one entry. The completed journal pages of the finished reeds from the semester (12 in total) will be due by class time on the last week of classes as a hard-copy left in an envelope on my studio door.

Course Policies: As mentioned before, it is paramount to the success of this class that each student comes prepared to each session. If you have to miss class for any reason (away from campus, illness, injury, etc.) email or text me **as early as possible** before class. No-call, no-shows will result in a lowered grade.

Communication Policies: Most communication for class purposes should be done through email or in-class. In the case that you wake up sick or have a last-minute emergency, texting or calling is fine. I reserve the right to not pick up my phone at an unreasonable hour.

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week One	Intro to class; introduction to profiling
Week Two	Shaping
Week Three	Sanding, beveling, scoring
Week Four	Mummying and Forming
Week Five	Wrapping
Week Six	Reaming + Clipping the tip + intro to finishing
Week Seven	Finishing
Week Eight	Finishing + intro to blank assignment

Week Nine	3 Blanks Due ; reed help
Week Ten	3 Blanks Due; 3 Finished Reeds due
Week Eleven	3 Blanks Due; 3 Finished Reeds due
Week Twelve	3 Blanks Due; 3 Finished Reeds due
Week Thirteen	3 Finished Reeds due
	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING
Week Fourteen	Class TBD – reed help?
Week Fifteen	Reed Journal Due

Bassoon Reed Journal

Name:

Reed Number:

Wrapping Type:

Color:

Type of cane:

Shape:

Wire Measurements (from butt, in mm):

Top Wire:

Middle Wire:

Bottom Wire:

4th Wire:

Notes on Blank Construction:

Blade Measurements (in mm):

	Twist up	Twist down
Tip:	_____	_____
5 mm:	_____	_____
9 mm:	_____	_____
13 mm:	_____	_____
18 mm:	_____	_____
22 mm:	_____	_____
27 mm:	_____	_____
Back:	_____	_____

Full length of reed butt to tip:

Notes/Observations on measurements:

Notes on Finishing Process:

Playing Characteristics:

Performances Used for:
