

Secondary Piano Skills

Course Syllabus

Spring, 2018

Text: **Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 1**
(Second Edition) Lancaster & Renfrow

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Office hours: As Posted for Semester

Instructor_____

Course Number and Section_____

Phone_____

Email_____

Office Hours_____

Overview

The sequence of Secondary Piano courses covers the skills necessary for basic functionality at the keyboard and, thus, is fundamental to your musical education. Skills to be covered include sight-reading, harmonization and improvisation, as well as the performance of scales and basic repertoire. Generally, material presented in class will be evaluated in subsequent classes.

Attendance Policy

Due to the progressive nature of course content, attendance is mandatory. More than three unexcused absences in the term *will result in your grade being lowered at the end of the semester*. Proper notification is expected for an absence to be excused. Evaluations missed during an *unexcused* absence will not be made up—a grade of zero will be issued.

Absences for illness *must be supported by a physician's note*. Likewise, a faculty note will be required if the absence is due to work for another professor. In matters of family problems, contact the Dean of Students Office (392-1261) for assistance. In all cases, prior notification of your absence will earn you leniency. Both your instructor and Dr. Arakawa have voice mail, email, and regular mailboxes.

Grading Policy

You should expect to be graded on some previously covered activity during every class session. Naturally, grades will reflect the quality of your outside preparation. As graded assignments will be played *individually*, it is essential that you practice every day.

Daily class scores: 130 points (up to 5 points per class)

4 quizzes at 25 points each: 100 points

Final exam: 70 points

Total: 300 points

Grading Scale: 279-300 A 270-278 A- 261-269 B+ 249-260 B 240-248 B-

231-239 C+ 219-230 C 210-218 C- 201-209 D+ 189-200 D 180-188 D- below 179 F

Lab Policies

1. No food or drink permitted in the lab.
2. All backpacks are to be placed on the floor. Phones must be switched off and stored in your backpack.
3. At the end of each class, turn the instrument OFF, hang up your headphones and slide bench under the keyboard.

Accountability

It is each student's responsibility to keep up with his or her own assignments. Grades administered by the graduate teaching assistants are final. Furthermore, the content of the course may be altered at the discretion of the TA. Dr. Arakawa, maintains the final say in matters of question, however, all concerns must first be directed to the course instructor. Students with a disability that may, in any way, hinder their ability to function academically, *must* be registered as such with the University of Florida and *must* inform the instructor of the condition at the beginning of the semester.

Exam Components

In each level of Piano Skills, the final exam will consist of the following components.*

- Technique
- Harmonization
- Sight Reading
- Transposition
- Prepared Piece

*Due to the progressive nature of the Piano Skills sequence, poor/failing performance on any one component of the final exam may result in your failing to pass the course.

Schedule (may be adjusted)

Week 1

Introduction: Overview, Policies, Grading
Basics/Review: pp. 8-24
Technique: Chromatic Scale, p. 20
Sightreading: p. 25, p. 26
Repertoire: *Summer Night*, p. 18
Homework: p. 27-28

Week 2

Basics: p.29-32, p.41-42
Technique: p.38
Harmonization: p.38
Sightreading: p. 35-37
Repertoire: *Miniature Waltz*, p.33
Minuet, p.34
Homework: p.39-40

Week 3

Basics: p.43, p.48-49
Technique: 5-finger patterns and chords, p.43-45
Harmonization: p.52
Sightreading & Transposition: p.50-51
Improvisation: p.57
Repertoire: *Dance*, p.46; *Waltz*, p.55
Barcarolle (ensemble), p.56

Quiz 1

Week 4

Basics: p.59-61
Technique: p.61
Harmonization: p.65, p.68
Sightreading & Transposition: p.61-62
Repertoire: *Little Scherzo*, p.64
Forty-finger Ensemble, p.66-67
Homework: p. 69-70

Week 5

Basics: P.72-76, p. 79
Technique: p. 81
Harmonization: p.82
Sightreading & Transposition: p.77-78
Repertoire: *Etude*, p. 8

Week 6

Basics: p.85-86
Harmonization: p.87
Improvisation: p.94
Sightreading & Transposition: p.90
Repertoire: *Prelude*, p.93

Quiz 2

Week 7

Basics: p.97-99
Technique: p.104
Harmonization: p.105
Sightreading & Transposition: p. 99, p.102
Repertoire: *Topsy-Turvy*, p. 100-101

Week 8

Basics: p.106-107, p.112-113
Technique: p.108-111, p.114
Harmonization: p.115
Sightreading: p.118-119
Repertoire: *Dream Echoes*, p. 116-117

Week 9

Basics: p.120-p.124
Harmonization: p.130
Repertoire: *Morning Salute*, p.128
German Dance, p.129

Week 10

Technique: p.125-126
Improvisation: p.132
Sightreading & Transposition: p.126-127
Repertoire: *Erie Canal* (ensemble improv.) p.83

Quiz 3

Week 11

Basics: p. 135-139
Technique: p.140
Harmonization: p.145
Sightreading: p.146-147
Repertoire: *Etude*, p.144

Week 12

Basics: p.148-149, p.153
Technique: p. 149-150. Review scales & arpeggios
Harmonization: p.154
Sightreading & Transposition: p.152-153
Repertoire: *March*, p.151

Week 13

Basics: p.158, p.167
Technique: p.159. Review scales & arpeggios
Harmonization: p. 164
Improvisation: p.167
Sightreading & Transposition: p.162-163
Repertoire: *Minute in F*, p. 160
Ode to Joy (ensemble), p.168-169

Quiz 4

Week 14

Technique: p.170-171, Review scales & arpeggios
Harmonization: p.179
Sightreading & Transposition: p.174-175
Repertoire: *Moonlit Shores*, p.172-173

Week 15

Review

Final Exam

- Technique (Scales and arpeggios, progressions, 5 finger patterns)
- Sightreading
- Harmonization
- Transposition
- Repertoire

