

MVK 2222: Piano Skills 4

Course Syllabus

Spring, 2019

Text: **Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 2**
(Second Edition) Lancaster & Renfrow

Room: MUB143

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Office hours: As Posted for Semester

Instructor _____

Course Number and Section _____

Email _____

Office Hours _____

Objectives

The sequence of Secondary Piano courses covers the skills necessary for basic functionality at the keyboard and, thus, is fundamental to your musical education. The four semesters of piano skills courses (Piano Skills 1 through Piano Skills 4) are designed to prepare you for the Piano Proficiency Exam at the end of fourth semester. Skills to be covered include various technical work including scales and arpeggios, sight-reading, score-reading, transposition, harmonization and improvisation, as well as the performance of 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. 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.

Practice

All the piano skills students are expected to practice at least 30 minutes a day, though some students will require more time. Class time is NOT for practice. You should come to class prepared.

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.

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)

3 quizzes at 30 points each: 90 points

Midterm exam: 90 points

Final exam: 90 points

Total: 400 points

Grading Scale: 369-400 A 357-368 A- 345-356 B+ 329-344 B 317-328 B-
305-316 C+ 289-304 C 277-288 C- 265-276 D+ 249-264 D 237-248 D- below 236 F

Your daily class scores will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor, and reflect attendance, participation and preparation. Attendance is essential for your progress as well as assessment. Your lowest two daily class scores will be dismissed from the final calculation of the grade.

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 midterm and 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.*

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Schedule

(may be adjusted)

Week 1

Introduction: Overview, Policies, Grading

Technique: C, G, D, A and E Major scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords (pp. 184–5). Progressions.

Sightreading: pp. 188-189

Harmonization & Transposition: p. 190

Improvisation: *Bourée*, p. 189

Score Reading: p.191

Repertoire: *Bagatelle*, pp. 186-187

Week 2

(materials for quiz 1 will be announced)

Technique: F, B, G \flat (F \sharp) and D \flat Major scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords (p. 198). Continue previous technique. Progressions.

Harmonization & TR: p.200, p. 203

Sightreading: pp. 199-200

Score Reading: p.193

Repertoire: *The Pioneer Spirit*, pp.196-197

Ensemble: 204-205 (Parts will be assigned on the first class day of the week)

Week 3

B \flat , E \flat and A \flat Major scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords (pp. 206– 207). Continue previous technique. Diminished Seventh arpeggios, p. 207. Progressions.

Harmonization: Ensemble, p. 210

Sightreading & Transposition: 209-210

Repertoire: Duet: *Allegro*, p.213 (instructor will assign parts)

Score Reading: p. 202

Quiz 1

The quiz take place outside of class by appointment with your instructor.

Week 4

Technique: c, g, d, a and e minor scale, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords; Progressions (pp. 219– 220). Continue previous technique

Harmonization&Transposition: pp. 223-224

Sightreading: p.222

Score Reading: p.215, p.218

Repertoire: Accompaniment, pp.216-217; *Gigue*, p. 221

Week 5

(materials for quiz 2 will be announced)

Technique: b and f minor scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords (p. 233) Continue all previous technique

Harmonization& Transposition: p.237

Sightreading: p.234

Score Reading: p.244

Repertoire: *Scherzo*, pp.230-231

Week 6

Technique: Diminished seventh arpeggio on F, p. 249. Dominant seventh arpeggios, p. 120
Continue all previous technique

Harmonization: p.238

Improvisation: p.239

Sightreading: p. 235

Score Reading: p.240

Repertoire: *Arabesque*, p. 362
Optional Ensemble: pp.241-243

Quiz 2

The quiz takes place outside of class by appointment with your instructor.

Week 7

(materials for midterm exam will be announced)

Technique: f#, c#, g#, b♭ and e♭ minor scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords (p. 249).
Continue all previous technique

Sightreading: p. 251

Score Reading: p. 253, p.255

Repertoire: Continue *Arabesque*; Accompaniment, p.254

Week 8

Review

(harmonization and transposition melodies will be given at the beginning of the week)

Sightreading: p.262

Harmonization: p.264

Score Reading: p.278

Midterm exam

Repertoire: 20 points

Technique: 25 points

All major and harmonic minor scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords, dominant and diminished seventh arpeggios. Progressions.

Sight reading: 15 points

Harmonization: 15 points

Transposition: 15 points

Week 9

Technique: Review all scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords, including dominant seventh and diminished seventh arpeggios

Harmonization & Transposition: p.269, p.271

Progressions & Sight Reading: German sixths, pp.268-269; Italian sixths, pp.270-271

Score Reading: p. 279

Repertoire: *Seascape*, p.26; Accompaniment, pp.378-379

Week 10

Technique: Review all scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords, including dominant seventh and diminished seventh arpeggios

Harmonization&Transposition: p. 285, 287

Progressions & Sightreading: French sixths, pp.284-285; Neapolitan sixths, pp.286-287

Score Reading: p. 291

Repertoire: *Bagatelle*, p. 288

Week 11

(materials for quiz 3 will be announce)

Technique: Review all scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords, including dominant seventh and diminished seventh arpeggios. Progressions.

Harmonization& Transposition: p. 300

Progressions: p. 294

Sightreading: pick from Level 6

Repertoire: *Prelude*, p.298

Ensemble: pp.280-281 (Parts to be assigned first class day of the week)

Week 12

Technique: Review all scales, arpeggios, blocked and broken chords, including dominant seventh and diminished seventh arpeggios starting on white notes

Sightreading: p. 308

Harmonization & Transposition: p.310

Score Reading: p.312, p.313

Repertoire: Begin preparing for proficiency piece (pick one, to be performed by memory at the exam)

Acceptable pieces from Alfred Book 2:

Menuet, pp. 306–307; *Lydian Nocturne*, p. 320–321; *Toccata*, pp. 335–336 ; *Sonatina*, pp. 354–355; *Spinning song*, pp. 358–360 ; *Maple Leaf Rag*, pp. 376–377

Other pieces from *Music for Millions, Vol. 17: Easy Classics to Moderns*, edited by Denes Agay

Waltz, p. 70; *Cradle Song*, p. 86; *Chromatic Polka*, p. 102; *Reverie*, p. 110

Fugue in Classic Style, p. 126; *Tarantella*, p. 132; *Toccata*, p. 140;

Scherzo, p. 146

Quiz 3

The quiz takes place outside of class by appointment with your instructor.

Week 13

Technique: Scales, arpeggios and blocked and broken chords in all major keys, and all harmonic minor keys. Progressions.

Harmonization: p. 342

Sightreading & Transposition: from Four-Star Book 6 (or higher)

Score Reading: p.332

Repertoire: Continue proficiency piece

Week 14

Technique: Scales, arpeggios and blocked and broken chords in all major keys, and all harmonic minor keys. Progressions.

Harmonization: p.342

Sightreading & Transposition: p.341

Repertoire: Proficiency Piece

Week 15

(harmonization and transposition melodies will be given by the end of the previous week)

Proficiency Exam (counts as the final exam)

Repertoire: 20 points

Technique: 25 points

Scales & arpeggios, blocked and broken chords in all major and minor keys.
Progressions.

Sight reading: 15 points

Harmonization: 15 points

Pick one from several harmonization melodies

Transposition: 15 points

Prepare to transpose the given melodies to designated keys.
