MVK 1111: Piano Skills 1
Course Syllabus
Fall, 2019

Text: *Alfred’s Group Piano for Adults Book 1*  
*(Second Edition)* Lancaster & Renfrow  
Room: MUB143

Coordinator: Dr. Jasmin Arakawa  
Email: jarakawa@arts.ufl.edu  
Office hours: As Posted for Semester

Instructor_______________________________

Course Number and Section________________

Phone___________________________

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 student are expected to practice at least 30 minutes a day, though some students will require more time.
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-

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 with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, 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.

**Campus Resources**

Health and Wellness
*U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
*Counseling and Wellness Center*: Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
*Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.
*University Police Department*: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

**Academic Resources**

*E-learning technical support*: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
*Career Connections Center*: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services career.ufl.edu/.
*Library Support*: cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
*Teaching Center*: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
*Writing Studio*: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/
*Student Complaints On-Campus*: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/
*On-Line Students Complaints*: distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/
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

(materials for quiz 1 will be announced)
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
Improvisation: p.57 -1
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

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**Week 6**

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

**Quiz 2**

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**Week 7**

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

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**Week 8**

(materials for midterm exam will be announced)

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

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**Week 9**

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

**Midterm exam**

Repertoire: 25 points
Prepare two pieces covered so far

**Technique: 20 points**
All major and minor 5-finger patterns, and all major tetrachord scales

**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.

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Week 10

Basics: p.120-p.124  
Technique: p.125-126  
Harmonization: p.130  
Improvisation: p.132  
Sightreading & Transposition: p.126-127  
Repertoire: *Morning Salute*, p.128  
*German Dance*, p.129

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Week 11

(materials for quiz 3 will be announce)

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

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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

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Quiz 3
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

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Week 14

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

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Week 15

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

**Review**

**Final Exam**

**Repertoire: 20 points**
Prepare two pieces covered so far

**Technique: 25 points**
Scales & arpeggios in C, G, D, A, E, F, B, G-flat, D-flat majors)
All major & minor 5-finger patterns
Progression I-IV-I7-I in all major keys

**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.