

MVK 1111: Piano Skills 1

Course Syllabus

Fall 2022

Room: MUB 143

Required Text: Lancaster, E.L. and Kenon D. Renfrow. *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1*, 2nd Edition, Alfred Publishing Co., Inc, 2004.

Coordinator: Dr. Hsiang Tu (MUB 350, hsiangtu@ufl.edu)

Instructor _____

Course Number and Section _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Office Hours _____

Overview

The sequence of Secondary Piano courses covers the necessary skills for basic functionality at the keyboard that are fundamental to any musician. Piano Skills 1 through 4 (given over four semesters) are designed to prepare you for the Piano Proficiency Exam at the end of fourth semester. Skills to be covered include scales and arpeggios, sight-reading, score-reading, transposition, harmonization and improvisation, as well as performance of solo and ensemble repertoire.

Attendance Policy

Due to the progressive nature of course content, attendance is mandatory. Proper and advance notification is required for an absence to be excused. Absences for illness *must be supported by a physician's note*. Likewise, a note from the corresponding faculty will be required if the absence is related to another class. In matters of family and personal issues, please contact the [Dean of Students Office](#) for assistance. The instructors will do their best to fill you in on the missed materials, but please understand that a prolonged absence would likely result in poor grades and the instructors have the right to refuse outside-of-class help when it exceeds certain number of absences.

Practice

30 minutes daily is a good baseline. It is beneficial to practice on a good instrument with a full-sized keyboard and proper setup.

Grading Components and Policy

In-class scores: 130 points (5 points per class)

You should expect to be graded on previously covered activity during every class session. Your in-class scores will reflect attendance, participation, professionalism, and preparation. As graded assignments will be played *individually*, it is essential that you practice regularly outside of class. An unexcused absence will result in a zero for the class. Your lowest two scores will be discounted from the final calculation of the grade.

Three quizzes at 30 points each: 90 points

These will take place during class in weeks 3, 6, and 12.

*Midterm exam: 90 points

Individually assigned time during week 9.

*Final exam: 90 points

Individually assigned time during the last week of class.

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

Grades administered by the instructor are final. Only in extraordinary circumstances would Dr. Tu interfere.

More information on UF grading policy may be found at: [Grades and Grading Policies](#)

***Exam Components**

In each level of Piano Skills, the midterm and final exam will consist of the following:

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

Due to the progressive nature of the Piano Skills sequence, a poor/failing performance on any one of the components during the final exam may result in failing the course.

Accountability

It is each student's responsibility to keep up with his/her/their assignments. Check the syllabus/Canvas and with classmates first before emailing your instructor.

Please remember to bring the textbook to each class.

Please treat all equipment in the keyboard lab with care.

No cellphone uses during class.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#). 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](#). Evaluations are typically open during the last two to three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when the date approaches. Summary results of these assessments are available to students on the [Gator Evals page](#).

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/ /

Course Outline

(Subject to change depending on class progress)

Week 1

Introduction: Course overview and syllabus

Basics: pp. 8-9 (posture, hand position, and finger numbers)

Keyboard orientation: pp. 11-12

Naming keys: pp. 14-17

Repertoire: *Summer Night*, p 18

Technique: chromatic scale, p. 20

Reading: pp. 21-3 & 25

Written homework: p. 27-28

Week 2

Review basics: pp. 8-9, 11-12, 14-17

Sight reading: p. 26

Technique (intervals): pp. 29-30

Rhythmic exercises: p. 35

Written homework: pp. 39-40

Repertoire: *Miniature Waltz*, p. 33, and *Minuet*, p. 34

Harmonization: p.38

Week 3

Quiz 1 (30 points, in-class)

1) Repertoire: pp. 33-4 (15 points)

2) Self-prepared reading: pp. 36-7 (15 points)

Five-finger pattern (white-key starting): pp. 41-42

Technique: p.43, 2-2

Same as the above, but starting on black keys: pp. 44-5

Repertoire: *Dance*, p. 46

Sight reading: pp. 47 and 50

Rhythmic exercises: p. 48

Harmonization and transposition: p. 52

Week 4

Choral warmup: p. 60, 2-32
Sight reading: p. 51
Harmonization and transposition: pp. 53
Ensemble: p. 56

Review choral warmup: p. 60, 2-32
Technique (cross-hand arpeggios): p.61, 2-37
Repertoire (and transposition): pp. 62-3

Week 5

Review:
Choral warmup: p. 60, 2-32
Technique (cross-hand arpeggios): p.61, 2-37

Harmonization: p. 65
Ensemble: pp. 66-7
Written homework: pp. 69-70

Five-finger pattern in minor: pp. 72-76
Sight reading and transposition: pp. 77-9
Repertoire: *Etude*, p. 80

Week 6

Quiz 2 (30 points, in-class)

- 1) Choral warmup: p. 60, 2-32 (5 points)
- 2) Selections from pp. 77-79 (10 points)
- 3) *Etude*, p. 80 (15 points)

Harmonization and transposition: p. 82

Harmonization and transposition: p. 87
Sight reading: p.91
Repertoire: *The Shepherd Pipes*, p. 324

Week 7

Rhythmic exercises: pp. 86 and 99
Theory review (written): pp. 95-6
Technique: p.104, # 1 and 2

Sight reading and transposition: pp.102-3
Harmonization: p.105

Week 8

Major scales in tetrachord position: pp.106-7
Technique (damper pedal): p. 113
Repertoire: *Dream Echoes*, p. 116-7

Technique: pp. 106-7, and 114
Harmonization: p.115
Sight reading/repertoire: pp.118-9

Week 9

Preparation for Midterm
(Harmonization and transposition melodies will be given at the beginning of the week)

Midterm exam (90 points, individually scheduled time outside of class)

Repertoire: 30 points

Dream Echoes, pp. 116-7, plus selections from pp. 118-9

Technique: 20 points

All major and minor 5-finger patterns, and all major tetrachord scales

Harmonization: 15 points

Pick one from several harmonization melodies

Transposition: 15 points

Prepare to transpose the given melodies to designated keys.

Sight reading: 10 points

Week 10

Scales and Arpeggios Core Prep

1. Diatonic triads in C: p.120, separate *and both*
2. C-major scale prep: pp. 121-122
3. C-major scale & arpeggios, **hands separate**: p. 124

Reading: p. 126, 5-17
Harmonization: p. 130, #1

Review "Scales and Arpeggios Core Prep" in C
Then do so in G major

Sight reading: p. 127, #2
Harmonization: p.130, #2, p. 131, #4
Repertoire: *Morning Salute*, p.128

Week 11

Review "Scales and Arpeggios Core Prep" in C and G
Then do so in D (see p. 125 for scales/arp.)

Sight reading: p. 127, #3
Improv and transposition: p. 132, #1
Repertoire: *German Dance*, p. 129

Review "Scales and Arpeggios Core Prep" in C, G, and D
Then do so in A and E (p. 125 for A major, p.126 for E major)
Harmonization: p. 145
Repertoire: *Etude*, p. 144
Written homework: pp. 133-4

Week 12

Quiz 3 (30 points, in-class)

- 1) Diatonic triads (p. 120), hands together, in C, G, D, A, and E (10 points)**
 - 2) Scales and arpeggios, hands separate, in C, G, D, A, and E: pp. 124-6 (20 points)**
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Triadic inversions: pp. 136-7, do them also in G and D
Sight reading: p. 146

Triadic inversions: pp. 136-7, in A and E
Sight reading: p. 147
Repertoire: *Canon*, p. 325

Week 13

Review scales and arpeggios in C, G, D, A, and E
Triads and inversions, hands separate: pp. 138, #1 (for LH), and p. 139, #1 (for RH), in all the keys above
Sight reading: pp. 152

Chord progressions (as written): p. 150, 6-1 only, and p. 159, 6-19 only
Sight reading: p. 153, #3
Harmonization and transposition: p. 154

Accompaniment harmonization: p. 156

Week 14

Review chord progressions: p. 150, 6-1, and p. 159, 6-19
Review scales & arpeggios (C, G, D, A, E)
Triads and inversions, hands together: pp. 138-9 (C, G, D, A, E)

Repertoire and transposition: p. 162

Chord progression: p.170, as written
Sight reading and transposition: p. 163
Harmonization: p.164 (6-32) and p. 165
Repertoire: *Moonlit Shores*, pp. 172-3

Week 15

Review for final exam

Final Exam (90 points, individually scheduled time outside of class)

Technique: 30 points

Scales & arpeggios in C, G, D, A, and E majors, hands separate

Triads and inversions in the above keys, hands together

Progression I-IV-I7-I: p. 170

Harmonization and transposition: 25 points

Prepare pp. 165-6

Harmonize/transpose another melody without help (the melody will be given ahead of time)

Repertoire: 20 points

Moonlit Shores, pp. 172-3, or equivalent

Sight reading: 15 points
