

Course Syllabus
Piano Skills Practicum for Majors
MUN 1460
Fall 2025

Instructor

Dr. Evan Mitchell

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Office: MUB 346

Office Hours: Thursdays 5th period (11:45am-12:35pm) or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

In the course of our music studies, lessons often (and with good reason) focus on repertoire. When this focus results in the exclusion of other topics, however, students may achieve a high degree of proficiency in their repertoire at the expense of other skills. The aim of this course is to introduce and/or reinforce skills such as sightreading, speed-learning, scale/arpeggio/chord fluency, harmonization, score-reading and transposition, among others.

Weekly Schedule

Students will meet either individually or in small groups with Dr. Mitchell approximately 8 times throughout the semester. Meeting times will be discussed directly with students and may vary, but will be during a mutually agreeable class period depending on the students' and instructor's other commitments.

Attendance

Students are expected to be present and punctual for all meetings. At the discretion of Dr. Mitchell, a first unexcused absence may be forgiven; all subsequent absences will result in a half-letter deduction from the student's semester grade. Similarly, one tardy arrival will be excused, after which point every two subsequent tardies will have the same effect as one unexcused absence on a final grade. Students must arrive with all books and other materials from which they have practiced. If reading from a tablet, the device and stylus must be fully charged.

Midterm

Undergraduate students will perform a Midterm during the semester, to be announced several weeks in advance. This will be an opportunity to demonstrate progress in skills practiced during the course of the semester.

Final Performance or Jury

At the end of the semester, students will prepare a variety of elements to reflect what skills they have improved. As with the Midterm, this will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable time on a specified day(s). In cases where students have completed training in other skills and are assigned a collaborative partner, it is possible that pianists will be expected to perform at their partner's final jury and/or studio recital instead.

Grading

Students will be graded on a 100-point scale with the following rubric:

Attendance/preparation:	9 points each, 72 points possible
Midterm:	15 points possible
Final performance:	15 points possible
Total:	102 points possible

Students may inquire about their standing in the class at any point in the semester.

Required Materials

PDFs and photocopies will be provided for most materials. Students are encouraged to visit the Fine Arts Library for relevant score materials, and to build their own personal libraries by purchasing copies of repertoire studied.

Additional Information

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here:

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>