

Course Syllabus
STUDIO PIANO—Fall, 2025
MVK 1411, 2421, 3431, 4441 MVO 6460,
MVK 3970, MVK 4971, MUS 6973, MUS 7951, MUS 7956
Dr. Jasmin Arakawa
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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

This course content will include individual lessons, weekly studio class, and a performance jury/project at the end of the semester.

Course Objectives

The aim of this course is to expose the student to the realm of literature for solo piano, and in some cases, piano ensemble/concerto repertoire. The intention is to cover literature that represents a broad range of musical styles, although the needs of the student will stand as the most significant factor in determining literature/exercises for study.

Preparation/Practice

Students are expected to practice DAILY, for a MINIMUM of 2 hours. Performance majors, and graduate students must commit a minimum of 3-4 hours per day to practice. Students are expected to work out “objective” issues in their repertoire (notes/fingering) prior to the lesson, so that discussion can focus upon more “subjective” areas, such as interpretation. This is, of course, a general policy, not applicable to every situation or every student.

Studio Class

As a member of this studio, students are expected to perform, when asked, for the class during our regular Tuesday group meeting time (12:50-1:40). Often, this situation can resemble a “masterclass” setting, depending upon the number of students playing.

Studio Recital

In lieu of live studio recital, we will have a performance/visual video project. The project will offer a platform in which students will combine the performance skills with versatile and entrepreneurial skills such as presentation, audio/video editing, and advertising.

Degree Recital

Students enrolled in a curriculum that requires a recital(s) are expected to complete any necessary paperwork/scheduling for the event. Recital performers are also expected to formulate a recital committee of one other faculty member from the piano area, and one non-piano faculty member. Often, the committee is established during the beginning of the school year in which the student is to give the recital. Naturally, recital students are expected to learn all repertoire for a recital FAR IN ADVANCE of the recital, to foster a more secure performance. In general, memorization of repertoire is required at least one month in advance of a performance.

Pre-Professional Jury

Piano majors completing 2000 level study will be expected to undergo a Pre-Professional jury prior to being admitted to 3000 level study. In this jury, the student will perform and discuss his/her recital repertoire for the piano area and one member of the faculty outside of the piano area. Questions about preparing for the oral portion of this jury should be directed to Dr. Arakawa.

Committee

Graduate students are expected to formulate a committee of faculty members (one other member of the piano area and a faculty member from another area). The committee's role is to evaluate the student's graduate recital and graduate oral examination at the conclusion of the degree. This committee should be formulated EARLY during the student's progress toward the degree.

Evaluation

Evaluation of students will be based upon progress and the ability to meet assigned goals. Goals/progress evaluation will not be the same for all students—evaluation will be consistent with, and reflective of the student's ability level. Students may inquire about their progress at any point in the semester. Since regular attendance is vital to fulfilling lesson goals, attendance will also be considered in determining a student's grade. After one unexcused absence, the semester grade will be dropped by one letter for each additional unexcused absence. In addition to lesson attendance, studio class/recital participation, jury performance will count toward the final grade.

Required Materials

Students are expected to obtain personal editions of all music to be studied, as recommended by Dr. Arakawa. Library copies are acceptable only on a short-term basis. Having your own music is necessary, not only to write comments and suggestions in the lesson, but for building a personal music library.

Students Requiring Accommodations

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

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 [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) 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 the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) 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; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#)

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/