

# MUSA 1269, Piano Class A for Non-Majors

Dr. Nayeli Dousa  
University of Texas at El Paso  
Music Department

Course Syllabus  
Summer 2023

MTWTHF 11:40am-1:50pm Digital Keyboard Lab – Fox Fine Arts Building – Room 443

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Dr. Nayeli Dousa, Fox Fine Arts Building, office 338.

Email: [nayelil@utep.edu](mailto:nayelil@utep.edu)

Office hours: By appointment

Phone: (915)747-7819

Textbooks:

Alfred's *Piano 101 Book* by E. L. Lancaster and Kenon D. Renfrow

Hal Leonard *Piano Ensembles Level 1*, edited by Phillip Keveren

## Course Description

This course for non-music majors is an introduction to keyboard skills and musicianship, designed to gain abilities with the basics of music and to develop functional skills such as keyboard orientation, reading skills in treble and bass clef, introduction to harmonization and improvisation, and beginning technical skills. All these areas are covered with a great variety of musical selections of all styles including solo and ensemble pieces.

## Course Goal

To provide the students the basic knowledge of keyboard skills and applied harmony to the keyboard.

## Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Develop correct body posture and hand position
- Learn to read, recognize, and interpret basic music notation
- Learn keyboard topography and different keyboard positions
- Learn basic rhythmic values (whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes, and dotted rhythms).
- Play major and minor five-finger patterns
- Play primary chord progression in major and minor keys (I, IV, V, I)
- Play and recognize intervals
- Perform solo and ensemble repertoire
- Read, improvise, and harmonize simple melodies

## Attendance

- Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting.

- Attendance is imperative to do well in the class. Only 1 unexcused absence is allowed during the summer session. The final grade will be dropped by 5 points for every unexcused absence.
- Excused absences should be, if possible, notified to the instructor in advance. Proper documentation is necessary for excused absences. Each tardy will be considered  $\frac{1}{2}$  absence.
- Attendance is required for all examinations. No make-ups will be given unless the instructor is notified in advance providing proper documentation.
- **Attendance to final examination is mandatory.** Failure to complete the final examination will result in failing the class.

### Examinations and Grading

Your grade will be based on two tests and the final exam, which will be calculated as follows:

Test I – 35%  
 Test II – 35%  
 Final examination – 30%

### Grading Scale

A = 100-90    B = 89-80    C = 79-70    D = 69-60    F = 59 – 0

### Practice expectations

Everyday practice is expected. At least 30 minutes per day is recommended.

### Rules and regulations

- No food is allowed in the classroom.
- No cell phones and/or electronic devices will be allowed during class. All electronic devices should be turned off before entering the class.
- Headphones are not to be unplugged at any anytime.
- It is expected that all students treat the instruments and headphones properly and with care in order to keep them in good shape and working properly.

## Tentative calendar

Date	Content
M 6/12	Introduction. Unit 1: Playing on Black Keys. FFP-C
T 6/13	Unit 2: Playing on White Keys. FFP-C-G
W 6/14	Unit 3: Exploring Positions on the Keyboard. FFP-C-G-D.
Th 6/15	Unit 4: The Staff. FFP-C-G-D-A
F 6/16	Unit 5: Intervals. FFP-C-G-D-A-E.
M 6/19	Juneteenth Holiday – No classes
T 6/20	Unit 6: Other Keyboard Basics. FFP-C-G-D-A-E-B.
W 6/21	Unit 7: G Position. FFP- C-G-D-A-E-B.
Th 6/22	<b>TEST 1</b>
F 6/23	Unit 8: Major Five Finger Patterns. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#. Ensembles.
M 6/26	Unit 9: Key of C. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab. Ensembles.
T 6/27	Unit 10: Key of G. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab. Ensembles.
W 6/28	Unit 11: Minor Five Finger Patterns. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb. Ensembles.
Th 6/29	Unit 12: Triads and Arpeggios. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb. Ensembles.
F 6/30	Unit 13: 6ths, 7ths, and 8ves. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb.
M 7/3	<b>TEST 2</b>
T 7/4	Independence Day Holiday – No classes
W 7/5	Unit 14: Key of F Major. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb-F. Ensembles.
Th 7/6	Unit 15: 12-Bar Blues. All FFP and scales. Ensembles.
W 7/7	(Last day of classes) Scales review and practice for final exam. Ensembles.
M 7/10	<b>FINAL EXAM - 1:00-3:45pm</b>

## Special Needs

I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please contact me in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or stop by at Room 106 in the Union East Building.

\* The above information is subject to change. In such a case, the instructor will provide details via Blackboard and/or email.