

MUSA 1269, Piano Class A for Non-Majors

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University of Texas at El Paso
Music Department

Course Syllabus Summer 2019

MTWTHF 11:45-1:50 Digital Keyboard Lab – Fox Fine Arts Building – Room 443

Dr. Nayeli Dousa, office hours by appointment
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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 ½ 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.** An absence in 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

M Jun10 – Introduction. Playing on Black Keys. FFP-C

T Jun 11 – Playing on White Keys. FFP-C-G.

W Jun 12 – Exploring Positions on the Keyboard. FFP-C-G-D. Ensembles.

Th Jun 13 – The Staff. FFP-C-G-D-A. Ensembles.

F Jun 14 – Intervals. FFP-C-G-D-A-E. Ensembles.

M Jun 17 – Other Keyboard Basics. FFP-C-G-D-A-E-B. Ensembles.
T Jun 18 – G Position. FFP- C-G-D-A-E-B.
W Jun 19 – **Test I**
Th Jun 20 – Major Five Finger Patterns. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#. Ensembles.
F Jun 21 – Key of C. Ensemble 2. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab. Ensembles.
M Jun 24 – Key of G. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab. Ensembles.
T Jun 25 – Minor Five Finger Patterns. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb. Ensembles.
W Jun 26 – Triads and Arpeggios. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb. Ensembles.
Th Jun 27 – 6ths, 7ths, and 8ves. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb
F Jun 28 – **Test II**
M Jul 1 – Key of F Major. FFP-C-G-D-A-B-F#-Ab-Eb-Bb-F. Ensembles.
T Jul 2 – 12-Bar Blues. All FFP and scales. Ensembles.
W Jul 3 – Review of scales and 5-finger patterns. Ensembles.
Th Jul 4 – No classes
F Jul 5 – (Last day of classes) Review and practice for final exam.
M Jul 8 – **Final exam**