

MUSA 2271, Piano Class III (Online)

Dr. Nayeli Dousa
University of Texas at El Paso
Music Department
Fall 2020

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Nayeli Dousa, Fox Fine Arts Building – Office 337

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Office hours: By appointment

Prerequisite: MUSA 1272

Course Materials

Textbook: Alfred's *Group Piano for Adults Book 2, Second edition*, by E. L. Lancaster and Kenon D. Renfrow

Course Description

This course for music majors, is the third of a four-semester track of Class Piano. It is designed to develop and improve functional keyboard skills such as harmonizing melodies, sight reading, improvising, score reading, and transposition. It is also intended to reinforce student's understanding of both written and aural theoretical concepts.

Course Goals

To provide students with basic knowledge of keyboard skills, applied harmony, and keyboard technology essential and necessary for careers as professional musicians and educators.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to:

- Demonstrate correct technical skills, such as movement over the entire keyboard, sound production, pedaling, arpeggios, articulations, as well as body posture and hand position.
- Perform all major and harmonic minor scales two octaves, hands together.
- Perform triads and 7th chords (with inversions) in all major and minor keys.
- Perform excerpts for ensembles (band/choral/orchestral) that involve transposing instruments.
- Create and perform a two-hand accompaniment.
- Harmonize melodies using the harmonic structures studied in class, with and without chord symbols provided (Roman numerals and letter symbols).
- Improvise simple melodies on a given harmonic progression and scale (major, minor, pentatonic, whole-tone, blues, chromatic, modes), and improvise different styles of

accompaniments (block chords, arpeggios, Alberti bass, waltz, etc.) on the harmonic structures studied in the course.

- Perform solo and ensemble repertoire from a variety of styles and periods.
- Perform examples involving sight reading and transposition.

Examinations and Grading

Your grade will be based on weekly practice assignments, skill checks, and examinations. Each component will be calculated as a percentage score. These scores will be weighted according to the following outline in determining your final grade.

Weekly practice assignments – 10%

Skill checks – 20%

Test I – 20%

Test II – 20%

Final examination – 30%

Grading Scale

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

Practice Expectations

A minimum of 45 minutes of daily practice is expected (in addition to the time that it will take you to look, go over, understand the material (textbook/videos), practice the assigned weekly material, and complete and submit assignments and tests). Since this is an online class and you will be able to work on the material at your own pace, I strongly recommend that you write and follow a daily practice schedule for this class.

Weekly Practice Assignments (WPA)

There will be **two** practice assignments required every week starting the second week of classes. There will be a total of 28 WPA (refer to the Tentative Calendar section). Students will record assigned material for the week on a YouTube video and upload the link on the assignments section on Blackboard. Guidelines to submit those will be posted on Blackboard as well. WPA will be **due every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:59pm MDT** (Mountain Daylight Time). You will receive credit for turning in these assignments with all components completed. I will be checking them to monitor your daily practice, and to ensure that you are making progress and keeping up with the class. Failure to send a WPA will result on a grade of zero for that WPA.

Skill Checks (SC)

There will be seven Skill Checks for the semester. They will be graded assignments of the material that we will cover during the current and/or previous week of its due date. Failure to turn in a SC assignment will result in a grade of zero for that SC.

Blackboard and Email

All materials for this class will be posted on the UTEP Blackboard platform — please check it daily. Also, check your email daily for any updates. You will be sending all assignments (WPA, SC, and tests) via Blackboard. If you need to schedule an appointment with me, please send me an email.

Practice Rooms and Practice Keyboards

Practice rooms will be available at the Fox Fine Arts building. However, if you have a piano/keyboard at home, you are welcome to use it to practice and record your class assignments. Be sure it has a pedal if the piece(s)/exercises(s) involve pedal markings, so you can receive credit for that component. If you do not have a pedal on your keyboard, plan to record at the UTEP practice rooms those assignments that involve pedal use.

YouTube Videos for WPA, SC and Tests

To receive credit for your WPA and satisfactory grades on the SC and tests, it is imperative that I have a full view of both of your hands in all videos that you send and that I can see your face when you introduce the video. Please be sure to try out the camera every time that you record, so that it is in the correct position for me to grade fingering, technique, hand position, etc. **No late assignments (WPA and SC) and tests will be accepted** unless **prior** arrangements are made with the instructor. ***Failure to submit the final exam on the due date and time will result in failing the class.*** Plan in advance to avoid sending your videos at the last minute, so you do not run into technical issues that could delay the delivery of the items.

Tentative Calendar

NOTE: All assignments (SC, WPA) and tests will be due at 11:59pm MDT.

WEEK	CONTENT	TESTS / ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1: Aug 24-29	Introduction, Unit 1	Skill check 1 - Due 8/29
Week 2: Aug 30-Sep 5	Unit 2	WPA 1 – Due 9/1 WPA 2 – Due 9/3
Week 3: Sep 6-12	Unit 3	Skill check 2 - Due 9/12 WPA 3 – Due 9/8 WPA 4 – Due 9/10
Week 4: Sep 13-19	Unit 4	WPA 5 – Due 9/15 WPA 6 – Due 9/17
Week 5: Sep 20-26	Unit 5	Skill check 3 - Due 9/26 WPA 7 – Due 9/22 WPA 8 – Due 9/24
Week 6: Sep 27-Oct 3	Review	Test 1 – Due 10/3 WPA 9 – Due 9/29 WPA 10 – Due 10/1

Week 7: Oct 4-10	Unit 6	WPA 11 – Due 10/6 WPA 12 – Due 10/8
Week 8: Oct 11-17	Unit 7	Skill check 4 - Due 10/17 WPA 13 – Due 10/13 WPA 14 – Due 10/15
Week 9: Oct 18-24	Unit 8	WPA 15 – Due 10/20 WPA 16 – Due 10/22
Week 10: Oct 25-31	Unit 9	Skill check 5 - Due 10/31 WPA 17 – Due 10/27 WPA 18 – Due 10/29
Week 11: Nov 1-7	Review	Test II – Due 11/7 WPA 19 – Due 11/3 WPA 20 – Due 11/5
Week 12: Nov 8-14	Unit 10	WPA 21 – Due 11/10 WPA 22 – Due 11/12
Week 13: Nov 15-21	Unit 11	Skill check 6 - Due 11/21 WPA 23 – Due 11/17 WPA 24 – Due 11/19
Week 14: Nov 22-28	Unit 12	WPA 25 – Due 11/24 WPA 26 – Due 11/25 (Wednesday, since this week is Thanksgiving)
Week 15: Nov 29-Dec 5	Unit 13	Skill check 7 - Due 12/5 WPA 27 – Due 12/1 WPA 28 – Due 12/3
Thursday, Dec 10	FINAL EXAM	Due at 11:59pm MDT

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, 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.