

MUSA 1269, Piano Class A for Non Majors

Dr. Oscar Macchioni
University of Texas El Paso - Music Department

Course Syllabus, Summer 2015 (subject to changes)
<http://utminers.utep.edu/omacchioni>
MTWTH 9:20-11:30 Digital Keyboard Lab- Fox Fine Arts Center Room 443

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Textbook: *Alfred's Piano 101 Book 1* by E L. Lancaster and Kenon D. Renfrow
Hal Leonard *Piano Ensembles Level 1*, edited by Phillip Keveren

Other materials: manuscript paper (<http://www.blanksheetmusic.net/>)
(http://www.musictheory.net/utilities/html/id96_en.html)

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.

Course Content / Objective:

The student 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. Also dotted rhythms)
- play major and minor five-finger patterns
- play primary chord progression in major and minor keys (C, G, F)
- play and recognize all types intervals
- play and improvise in other scales structures: chromatic, whole-tone, and blues,
- perform solo and ensemble repertoire
- read, improvise, and harmonize melodies using the harmonic structures studied in these chapter.

Attendance

- Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. .
- Absences: you are allowed to have 3 unexcused absences during the semester. Your grade will be dropped 3% points for every unexcused absence beyond the 3 allowed.

- Each tardy will be considered 1/2 absence
- Excused absences should be, if possible at all, notified to the instructor in advance, and followed by a note from the Music Department's Chair, Dean of the college, or doctor.
- Attendance is required for all examinations and Skill Checks. No make-ups will be given unless the instructor is notified in advance or provided with a note from the Music Department's Chair, Dean of the college, or doctor. **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 your class participation and attendance, assignments, skill checks, and examinations calculated as follow:

Tests I, II	70%
Final	30%

Grade scale:

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 78-70 D = 69-60 D = 59-0

Practice expectations

- A minimum of 30 minutes a day is suggested. There plenty of practice rooms throughout the music building with electronic keyboards.

Others

- **No** food in the classroom.
- **No** cell phones, palmtops, wireless electronic devices allowed in class. You should turn off all devices before entering the classroom.
- **Please** treat instruments and headphones with care. It is for you benefit that they are in good shape and work properly.