

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**MUSE 4396 Piano Pedagogy III – For Piano Pedagogy Majors Only**  
Advanced Practicum  
(subject to changes)

**Dr. Oscar Macchioni**

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Class meeting: schedule will be flexible and through weekly private appointments.

Required Books: There are no books needed for this class. However, I encourage you to start building your teaching library with some of the following titles. I may assign research papers exploring weaknesses in your teaching, which could include: pedagogy, repertoire, basic psychology, etc.

**Textbooks on the Artistry of Teaching Piano:**

- *Questions and Answers* by Frances Clark
- *The Success Factor in Piano Teaching: Making Practice Perfect* by Elvina Pearce
- *A Piano Teacher's Legacy* by Richard Chronister, edited by Edward Darling

**On Reserve in the Library:**

- *Menahem Pressler: Artistry in Piano Teaching*, by William Brown
- *Mastering Piano Technique: A Guide for Students, Teachers, and Performers*, by Seymour Fink
- *The Piano Master Classes of Hans Von Bulow: Two Participant's Accounts*, by Richard Louis Zimdars.
- *Piano Notes: The World of the Pianist*, by Charles Rosen (Oct 29, 2002)
- *Abby Whiteside on Piano Playing: Indispensables of Piano Playing - Mastering the Chopin Etudes and Other Essays*, by Abby Whiteside
- *The Art of Practicing: A Guide to Making Music from the Heart*, by Madeline Bruser
- Magazines: *Piano International Magazine* (UK), *American Music Teacher Magazine*.

**DVDs:**

- Several DVDs are accessible through the University Library subscriptions and YouTube.

**Course description:**

This third semester, required for Piano Pedagogy majors, is an intense and advanced practicum on teaching. It focuses on observation and the artistry of teaching private and group piano lessons, as well as performance critique and masterclasses. You are required to have at least two private students at different levels (students A&B). **Student A** should remain the same student through the teaching period. This will allow me to see the progress of teaching one student over an extended period of time. **Student/s B** can be different students through the teaching period. This will allow me to see your approach to different students' levels.

**Course Goal:**

To develop the artistry of teaching individuals, groups, and in master class settings. To gain experience teaching, judging, and evaluating students of elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels. In addition, students will teach in a master class setting, presenting a workshop for the local piano teachers association and attending a state/national Piano Pedagogy Conference.

**Recording:**

You can use your equipment, or you can borrow the cameras from the Library to videotape individual lessons with your students. You must complete a minimum of twelve lessons. Each lesson must be uploaded to YouTube and the link sent to me three days before our meeting. After each lesson, we'll meet and discuss your teaching. You will receive feedback, and it is expected your teaching will improve through this exercise. Be sure that the camera takes both your and the student's torso and face, and the sound and image are clear. You can also bring your student on campus for observation.

**Group Piano observation and teaching:**

Observation and teaching of group piano started in Piano Pedagogy II. Piano Pedagogy III will intensify your teaching time. You'll be required to observe two UTEP's Piano Classes, teach two - 20 minutes- classes with topic/s assigned to you, and two full classes. You can observe classes by Dr. Macchioni, Dr. Dousa, and Dr. Jones. Please see the catalog for when classes meet.

You'll also be required to observe two Piano Classes and teach two-20 minute- classes at local middle and high schools. I'll provide you with a list of emails and telephone numbers to contact and schedule your observations.

**Attendance**

- Since this will be a non-traditional class due to the nature of scheduling private lessons, attendance is required to the weekly scheduled meetings.
- Absences: you are NOT allowed unexcused absences. Your grade will be dropped 3% points for every unexcused absence.
- Excused absences should be notified to the instructor in advance, if possible at all, and followed by a note from the Music Department's Chair, Dean of the college, or doctor.
- Attendance is required to all examinations. 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 the examination will result in failing the class.

**Grades:**

Your grade will be based on your attendance, required observations, teaching practices, individual assignments as follow:

Points:

**100 - 90 %=A**

**89.9 - 80 %=B**

**79.9 - 70 %=C**

**69.9 - 60 %=D**

**59.9 - 50%= F**