MUSI 1181
PIANO CLASS
for non music majors

Instructor: Octavio Gutierrez
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is primarily for students with no piano background. It develops basic musicianship and piano skills. This course may be repeated for credit. (2 Lab.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Develop skills to read standard music symbols.
Develop an understanding on the reading-playing process.
Learn basic piano techniques.
Participate in live performance.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

A. Develop skill in interpretation and performance of printed music by developing the necessary eye skills, mental thought process and muscular responses of the hands at the keyboard.

B. Develop a process for sight-reading which includes visual control in reading from a score, metric and rhythmic control, steady tempo, continuity, pitch accuracy, and visual and aural analysis techniques.

C. Stress rapid acquisition of music reading skills as an avenue to the development of independence, confidence, and a feeling of accomplishment.
REQUIRED MATERIALS

TEXT:

*ALFRED’S ADULT ALL-IN-ONE COURSE*, Level 1, containing Lesson-Theory-Technic

Palmer, Manus, Lethco

Alfred Publishing


OTHER MATERIALS:

Two (2) Sharpened (or Mechanical) Pencils with good eraser

10 Sheets Blank Music Manuscript Paper

GRADING POLICIES:

Practicing is very important for the success of this class:

Weekly Assignments = 60%

Attendance and practice = 10%

Final recital = 30%

100 – 90 A

89 – 80 B

79 - 70 C

60 – 69 D

BELOW 60 F

Attendance Policy:

1. You must contact me for any absences from class.

2. If you must be absent, please contact me for your assignment.

LEARNING UNITS

1. MODULE 1 – INTRODUCTION: This module will provide the student with a general introduction to the course, textbook, and keyboard orientation, including C Position, basic note values, and the Grand Staff (through p. 20).

2. MODULE 2 – INTERVALS: This module will continue with the Grand Staff and introduce harmonic and melodic intervals; time signatures; (through p. 31).
3. MODULE 3 – INTRODUCTION TO CHORDS: This module will introduce chords for both hands, including C Major, G7, and F Major; new time signatures; dotted notes; dynamics (through p. 49).

4. MODULE 4 – G POSITION: This module will introduce the G position for left and right hand; the sharp sign; intervals in G Position; G Major, D7, and C Chords; Finger independence; use of the damper pedal; Block chords and Broken chords (through p. 71).

5. MODULE 5 – MIDDLE C POSITION: This module will introduce the Middle C Position; Eighth notes; Hanon exercises (through p. 82).

6. MODULE 6 – EXPANDING THE 5-FINGER POSITION: This module will introduce new harmonic and melodic intervals—6ths, 7ths, and Octaves; the flat sign; measuring whole and half steps (through p. 99).

7. MODULE 7 – SCALES AND CHORDS—KEY OF C MAJOR: This module will introduce the structure of the major scale; playing the C Major scale; the primary chords in C Major; the natural sign; the Blues chord progression (through p. 110).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments, demonstrations, and exams are designed to measure student progress toward the performance objectives. Categories are as follows:

All the assignments together are worth 60% of the final course grade. The assignments are related to the information posted on this syllabus and provided in the textbook.

Class attendance and practice are worth 10% of the final course grade.

The Final Recital is worth 30% of the final course grade. Student will play a piece for other class members demonstrating what has been learned.

ASSIGNMENTS

There are seven modules, each one to be completed every two weeks.
Orientation

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