Course Information

Division: Fine Arts  
Course Number: MUS 155  
Title: Class Piano I for Music Majors  
Credits: 1  
Developed by: Patricia Jordahl  
Lecture/Lab Ratio: 0 Lecture/2 Lab  
Transfer Status: Elective Credit  
Activity Course: Yes  
CIP Code: 50.0900  
Assessment Mode: Portfolio  
Semester Taught: Fall  
GE Category: None  
Separate Lab: No  
Awareness Course: No  
Intensive Writing Course: No

Prerequisites
None

Educational Value

A. To General Education
1. Music education gives a person a broader scope and perspective of the arts and music in his or her life. Piano is the basic, fundamental instrument of music. It can be a means of creating or just enjoying music and a way to gain greater understanding of the world of music around them, internationally, and historically.

B. To Major/Program
1. Piano is required of all music majors and in other major fields in the arts. A basic knowledge of music is required of all elementary teachers, and a proficiency in piano would be most advantageous. Many drama students and performers need music skills. A vast field in the area of music therapy for medical and mental health care is opening up.

Description

Fundamentals of piano for the music major. The course will encourage improvement of certain, defined piano skills to enhance performance and musicianship.
Competencies and Performance Standards

1. Demonstrate correct fingerings for all major scales.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Correspond each piano key to a specific finger.
   b. Make appropriate transitions in finger position when performing scales.

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o in class activities and exercises
   Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner corresponds each piano key to a specific finger
   o learner makes appropriate transitions

2. Demonstrate competency in the organization of chords.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Construct and play Root Position Triads which are major or minor, starting on any white note.
   b. Play primary chord progressions: (I - IV - I - V7 - I) in any Major key; hands alone.

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o in class activities and exercises
   Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner constructs and plays Root Position Triads
   o learner plays primary chord progressions

3. Ability to sight-read a simple 2–part piece.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Demonstrate ability with hands together.
   b. Demonstrate ability by playing at a slow, steady tempo.
   c. Demonstrate coordination.

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o in class activities and exercises
   Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner demonstrates playing ability with hands together
   o learner demonstrates ability by playing at a slow, steady tempo
   o learner demonstrates coordination
4. **Perform a prepared, memorized piece at the appropriate skill level.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Demonstrate consistency in tempo and pace.
b. Demonstrate professional showmanship.
c. Demonstrate accuracy and coordination.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- in class activities and exercises

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner demonstrates consistency
- learner demonstrates professional showmanship
- learner demonstrates accuracy and coordination

**Types of Instruction**

Class lecture, demonstration, and/or worksheet assignments.

**Grading Information**

**Grading Rationale**

10% Homework and special assignments
50% Periodic playing exams
20% Final written and playing exams
20% Class participation, attendance, initiative

**Grading Scale**

A  100-90%
B  89-80%
C  79-70%
D  69-60%
F  59% and below