

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**DEPARTMENT of MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Prefix and Number: MU 3122

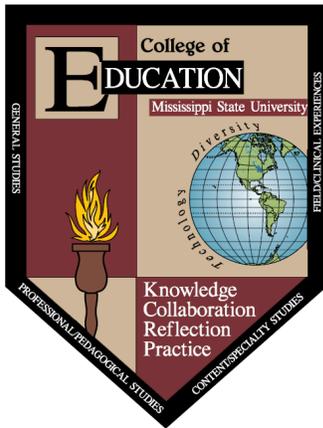
Course Title: Functional Skills of Piano II

Credit Hours: Two (2) semester hours

Type of Course: Laboratory

Catalogue Description: (Prerequisite: Prior credit or concurrent enrollment in MU 1213-1413). Two hours laboratory. Functional keyboard skills for music majors who read and play intermediate to advanced-level piano repertoire

College of Education Conceptual Framework:



The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing superior learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students' educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development are as follows:

1. **KNOWLEDGE** - Educational professionals must have a deep understanding of the organizing concepts, processes, and attitudes that comprise their chosen disciplinary knowledge base, the pedagogical knowledge base, and the pedagogical content knowledge base. They must also know how to complement these knowledge bases with the appropriate use of technology.
2. **COLLABORATION** - Educational professionals must continually seek opportunities to work together, learn from one another, forge partnerships, and assume positions of responsibility.
3. **REFLECTION** - Educational professionals must be willing to assess their own strengths and weaknesses through reflection. They must also possess the skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary to learn, change, and grow as life-long learners.
4. **PRACTICE** - Educational professionals must have a rich repertoire of research-based strategies for instruction, assessment, and the use of technologies. They must be able to focus that array of skills on promoting authentic learning by all students or clients, while exhibiting an appreciation and commitment to the value and role of diversity.

Course Objectives:

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

1. Pass the piano proficiency exam [CFPO #1, 3, 10, 11, 12]
2. Understand the process of playing by ear and play simple pieces by ear, such as *Happy Birthday* [CFPO #1, 3]
3. Play, at sight, early intermediate or more advanced-level music [CFPO #1, 3]
4. Understand and demonstrate the process of transposing B-flat, E-flat and F instruments to concert key [sounding key] [CFPO #1, 3]
5. Play, hands separately, all major and harmonic minor scales in two octaves, ascending and descending, with correct pitches and fingering [CFPO #1, 3]
6. Play, hands separately, all major and minor arpeggios in two octaves, ascending and descending, with correct pitches and fingering [CFPO #1, 3]
7. Play, hands together, the primary chord progression in all major and minor keys, beginning from the tonic chord in root position with correct pitches and acceptable fingering [I-IV-I-V7-I; i-iv-i-V7-i] [CFPO #1, 3]
8. Improvise basic melodies over blocked or broken-chord accompaniment patterns given Roman numeral or jazz-style chord notation [CFPO #1, 3]
9. Play Western (art music and folk music) and Non-Western music with an accurate sense of style [CFPO #1, 3, 5, 6]
10. Sing, cue, conduct, count aloud or speak and play piano simultaneously [CFPO #1, 3, 5]
11. Demonstrate the ability to accompany voice and other instruments at the keyboard [CFPO #1, 3, 9]
12. Demonstrate knowledge and evidence of effective practice habits, thereby modeling the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State, “Kaizen—translated continuous improvement” [CFPO #1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 12]
13. Demonstrate knowledge of technical considerations and evidence of technical growth [CFPO #1, 3]
14. Demonstrate the ability to give constructive self-criticism and constructive criticism to peers, thereby modeling the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State, “Kaizen—translated continuous improvement” [CFPO #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11]
15. Understand and appreciate the ways in which keyboard skills impact careers in music, especially instrumental, choral, or elementary music education [CFPO #1, 3, 12]
16. Effectively operate digital keyboards and use keyboard technology, such as multi-track recorders [CFPO #10]

Topics to Be Covered:

1. Playing by ear and “Happy Birthday”; Review major and minor scales and arpeggios, I-IV-V7 and i-iv-V7 progressions; Modulation to Dominant (6 hours)

2. Modulation to Subdominant (2 hours)
3. Three-Part Form (2 hours)
4. Instrument transposition review; Modulation to the Relative Minor (3 hours)
5. Modulation to the Relative Major (3 hours)
6. Rondo Form (2 hours)
7. Theme & Variations, By Ear, or Multi-Part Ensemble project; Improvisation review; SATB choral score reading; string quartet score reading (6 hours)
8. Extended Chord Structures (2 hours)
9. Modes Related to Major (2 hours)
10. Modes Related to Minor (2 hours)

Text and Materials:

Lancaster, E.L., & Renfrow, K. D. (2008). *Alfred's group piano for adults, book 2* (2nd ed.). Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

Folder for handouts and assignments

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lecture combined with blackboard and keyboard demonstration
2. Student discovery of musical aspects through classroom activity
3. Informal class discussion

Suggested Student Activities:

1. Preparing and performing individualized repertoire (solo or ensemble) [Course Objectives #12, 13] [first half of InTASC #1]
2. Preparation and performance of additional instrumental or vocal accompaniments [Course Objective #11]
3. Attending musical performances on campus [Course Objective #15]
4. Self-evaluation and critiquing work of classmates [Course Objective #14] [InTASC #9]
5. Group sight reading [Course Objective #3]
6. Capstone Project: Creation of a Theme & Variations, By Ear Solo or Accompaniment, or Multi-track Ensemble & recording [Course Objectives #2, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16]

MSU Honor Code:

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

The Mississippi State Honor Code can be found at <http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu/>.

Technology:

Students will use technology in the following ways

1. MyCourses for course information, supplementary materials in PDF documents, and to post grades
2. Instruction on 88-key digital pianos with a teacher communication/control center
3. MP3 player, iPhone and iPad aps for musical examples
4. Multi-tracking and recording on digital pianos, computer or iPad
5. *Finale* music-writing program for Theme & Variations or Multi-Track Ensemble

Diversity:

Students are exposed to music from a variety of cultures. [Course Objective #3]

Disability:

Students with disabilities documented by the Office of Student Support Services (325-3335) will be accommodated.

Field Component:

There is no field component with this course.

Evaluation of Student Progress:

60% Daily teacher evaluation of individual performance. (Scale: A = 90% - 100%; B = 80% - 89%; C=70% - 79%; D=60% - 69%; F=59% and below)

Special Note 1: Failure to attend class without notifying the teacher in advance or presenting a doctor's excuse will result in an "F" [0] as a daily grade. I will excuse up to *two absences*, all other absences, excused or otherwise will not be excused and will receive a daily grade of "F" [0] for the absence. Exception: if university-related responsibilities cause you to miss more than 2 classes, I will excuse the absences [example—if you are part of the pep band, the basketball teams play in championship games and you are required to attend the games]

Special Note 2: Each student is expected to come to class with his/her own textbook, folder or notebook, pencil, and any previously assigned handouts. Students are allowed two class periods to "forget" textbooks without penalty. *Beginning with the third class period a textbook is "forgotten," students will receive an "F" as a daily grade.*

Special Note 3: Students are expected to be on time for each class. Students will be

allowed two class periods for tardiness without penalty. Beginning with the third class period, students' daily grades will be lowered by one letter. Students who are consistently tardy (six class periods or more) will receive an "F" as a daily grade. *If you have a problem getting to class on time because you have a class just before this one in a remote part of campus, let me know immediately!*

40% Three scheduled exams. (Scale: A = 90% - 100%; B = 80% - 89%; C = 70% - 79%; D = 60% - 69%; F=59% and below)

1. All regular exams are scheduled on class meeting days.
2. All exams are weighted equally because the nature of skill development is comprehensive
3. Exam contents consist of a demonstration of skills and repertoire or special projects (i.e. the multi-tracking project) covered in classes prior to a given exam
4. Consult the class calendar for specific exam days.
5. All exams are held one-on-one with the instructor in the instructor's office.
6. *Students who are unable to attend an exam at the scheduled time must notify the instructor via e-mail or phone on the day of the exam. If a student fails to show up for an exam or has not notified the instructor regarding an exam absence by the next regular class meeting, the student will receive an automatic "F" for the exam.*
7. *Make-up exams for excused absences will be given during finals week, the day and time of which are agreed upon by instructor and student.*

**** **Piano Proficiency Exam.** See handout for contents and additional information. This class piano capstone, comprehensive exam will be given during the final exam time for MU 3122. **Important Note:** *Each component of the exam must be passed. Failure to pass any portion of the exam results in failure of the exam and a final grade of D or F for MU 3122.*

Bibliography:

- Alexander, D. (1986). *Alfred's basic adult duet book, level 2*. Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Publishing Company, Inc.
- Frackenpohl, A. (1991). *Harmonization at the piano* (6th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.
- Hilley, M. & Olson, L. F. (2002). *Piano for the developing musician* (5th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
- Kern, F., Keveren, P., Kreader, B., & Rejino, M. (2005). *Hal Leonard adult piano method, book 2*. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation.

- Kern, F., Keveren, P., Kreader, B., & Rejino, M. (2005). *Popular hits book 2*. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation.
- Keveren, P. (1999). *Piano ensembles, levels 4 & 5*. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation.
- Lancaster, E.L. & Renfrow, K. D. (2004). *Alfred's group piano for adults, book 1* (2nd ed.) . Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Publishing Company, Inc.
- Lyke, J., Elliston, R., Caramia, T., & Hartline, E. (1993). *Keyboard musicianship: Group piano for adults, book 2* (6th ed.). Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing Company.
- Palmer, W. A., Manus, M., & Lethco, A. V. (1984). *Alfred's basic adult Christmas piano book, level 2*. Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Publishing Company, Inc.
- Stecher, M., Horowitz, N., Gordon, C., Kern, R. F. & Lancaster, E. L. (1980). *Keyboard strategies (master text 2)*. Milwaukee, WI: G. Schirmer, Inc.