

Syllabus
APPLIED PIANO LESSONS

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General Information

Students enrolled for applied piano lessons will receive one 50-minute lesson per week for the semester to be scheduled at a mutually convenient time for the instructor and student. Any lessons missed by the instructor will be made up at a mutually agreeable time. Repertoire studied will be primarily classical literature.

Required Practice

Each student is required to do **daily practice**. It is highly suggested that no student practice for less than one (1) hour per day. *Performance majors* should practice a minimum of 2 1/2 to 4 hours each day. It is strongly advised that students do not stop practicing during weekends. All students must sign up for practice room time. You are asked to refrain from bringing food and beverages into the room. Practice rooms are located at the rear of the second floor of Scruggs Hall.

Preparation

Preparation for your weekly lesson includes sufficient daily practice to accomplish reasonable goals; attentiveness to details discussed at your prior lesson; corrections made to wrong notes, rhythms, etc.; and learning new notes. If possible, please warm up before your lesson time.

Repertoire

Piano Performance majors are required to work on a minimum of four pieces per semester. All other students are required to work on at least three compositions from contrasting style periods during the semester. Technique, such as scales and arpeggios, will be a component of any student enrolled in applied lessons and will be heard at the Spring piano jury. Each student is expected to make technique a regular part of their practice routine even if the instructor does not dictate a weekly assignment. The technique requirements for each level can be found in the *Piano Area Guidelines*.

NOTE: ALL STUDENTS MUST PURCHASE THE ASSIGNED MUSIC! Photocopies will not be tolerated beyond the third week of the semester.

Lesson Attendance

Attendance at weekly lessons is mandatory. An excess of two (2) unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter. Make-up lessons are NOT available for unexcused absences. In the event of excused absences, the instructor will make every attempt to reschedule the lesson. However, students should consider an applied lesson just like any other class. You are responsible for being at your lesson on time and prepared each week. Make-up lessons may not always be possible.

Piano Juries

The piano jury occurs on the Monday of Finals Week at the end of each semester. This is your chance to perform for the entire piano faculty. Each faculty member will submit a grade based on your progress and performance. The piano jury will count for 25% of your final grade. (*over*)

Piano Performance majors will perform 3 of the 4 pieces they have worked on during the semester at the jury. For performance majors, *all repertoire must be memorized.*

For all other students, 2 of the 3 compositions studied will be performed at the jury. *All students will be required to play at least one selection from memory.

Area Meetings & Student Recitals

All piano majors and minors are expected to attend the scheduled area meetings which usually take place every other Friday at 1:00 pm in Meek Auditorium. Each student is required to perform on at least one area meeting each semester (performance majors - twice). Piano performance majors are also required to perform on at least one Student Recital each semester. Student Recitals are held on select Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in Meek Auditorium. A Music 100 list will be posted in the first floor hallway of Meek. Anyone is welcome to perform or attend.

Area Events

Piano majors — Attendance is mandatory of *all piano majors* for all *Piano Series* concerts and masterclasses as well as the four *Teacher Series* presentations. There is no admission charge for music majors to any of these events. They are designed with you, the student, in mind. It is the assumption that you are here to learn from experienced musicians and to take advantage of the opportunities presented. There is much to be learned from observing guest pianists and faculty both in performance and in a masterclass setting. Performance majors will be expected to play a complete piece (or movement) for one or two masterclasses over the course of the year. All of the guest presentations on the Teacher Series are delivered by accomplished teachers with a long record of student achievement.

** Lack of attendance at these events will adversely affect your final grade.*

Non-majors — Non-majors are strongly encouraged to attend any and all events. Non-majors are also welcome to participate in masterclasses. There is no admission charge for piano masterclasses or presentations, however, there is an admission charge for all Piano Series concerts.

Grading

The final grade will be based on the amount of progress you make during the course of the semester. Obviously, excessive absences; unwillingness to follow the advice of your instructor; lack of participation at area events; or insufficient practice will adversely affect your grade. There is no reason why every student should not receive a high grade for each semester of piano study, regardless of ability.

** Note: A grade of C or higher is required to apply this course to a B.A. or B.M. in music.*

Here is how your final grade will be calculated:

Attendance; preparation & attitude for weekly lessons: 60%

Performance & participation at required area events: 15%

Final jury: 25%