



MUS 351 Piano Lessons (barrier)

Course Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Libby Vanatta, instructor
Office Location:	Music Building 230
Office Hours:	See schedule posted outside of office door or set up appointment.
Phone:	903-886-5286
University Email Address:	libby.vanatta@tamuc.edu
Preferred communication:	Email
Reply response time:	Within 24 hours

***If lessons are taught by a GTA or adjunct, contact information will be given at the first lesson of the semester.**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact the instructor via email or set up an appointment to address your concerns as soon as possible.

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Music Purchases

At the first lesson after music is chosen for the semester, a list of expected music purchases will be given to the student. Once the list is given, the student has two weeks to purchase the books. The teacher will provide photocopies of technical exercise, etudes, accompaniments, or any other individual pieces to be covered during the semester.

Course Description

MUS 351 is private instruction for advanced music majors in keyboard, vocal, instrumental, or composition majors. This course includes recitals and performance forums with teacher-directed student evaluations and instructions. All students must pass the upper division barrier examination prior to enrollment.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes

- 1) Play a vocalization accompaniment in every major key (minimum tempo of quarter note equals 76).
- 2) Play a four-part chorale at a reasonable tempo.
- 3) Play with good tone and steady pulse three of four parts from a representative piece in the choral repertoire (SAB or STB) given to the student in advance of the mid-term exam.
- 4) Play a piano solo at the equivalent level of Snell book 4 at performance tempo.
- 5) Play the accompaniment to a choral piece or a vocal solo at performance tempo.
- 6) Play with good tone and steady pulse all choral parts of a representative piece in the choral repertoire (SATB) given to the student in advance of the final exam.

Grading Scale

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Students MUST pass the final exam with a 70% in order to pass the class.

Students MUST pass the course with a 70% in order to continue to MUS 140.

Assessment type, percentage of final grade, and relationship to student learning outcomes

Attendance and preparation for lessons	30%	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Mid-term performance	35%	SLO 1, 2, 3
Final performance	35%	SLO 4, 5, 6

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1-2	Regular instruction:	vocalization, preparation for exams
Week 3	Mid-term exam:	three-part open score, chorale
Week 4-5	Regular instruction:	preparation for exam
Week 6	Final exam:	four-part open score, piano solo or accompaniment

The mid-term and final evaluations serve as the upper division proficiency exam for vocal majors. You must pass the evaluations and the course with a minimum of 70% to complete the piano requirements for the vocal degree.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Required Practice

Students are expected to **practice daily** for a minimum of forty-five minutes to one hour. It is almost impossible to “cram” at the last minute and perform well on the jury. The mid-term and final is a performance, not a written test like those given in other classes. Students are not only expected to play the elements on the exam well, but to do so in a performance setting in front of multiple examiners. Daily preparation is the only way to overcome nerves and to give the best performance possible!

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all 60-minute lessons. **No absences are allowed.** Each absence will lower the final grade by 50 points (half a letter grade).

Tardiness or Early Exit

Repeated tardiness will lower the final grade by 5 points for each instance. Lessons will be counted as tardy if all necessary materials are not brought by the student.

Late Work and Missed Jury

Lack of preparation is not an adequate excuse for rescheduling a lesson. Lessons will only be rescheduled in the case of a medical excuse or university cancellation. It is the student’s responsibility to appropriately plan the activities of the week to complete adequate practice and come prepared to the lesson.

Exam performances will be submitted via YouTube video link. No late work will be accepted.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#):

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at A&M-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty, see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

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Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by A&M-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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