MUS 140
Class Piano (Level B)
Course Syllabus: Spring 2024

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 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. Contact information for adjunct instructors or teaching assistants associated with the course will be given at the first class meeting and can be found on D2L.

Course Information

Course Description

This course is designed for instrumental and vocal music majors and minors as a continuation of MUS 136. Students will develop advanced keyboard skills, including scale and chord construction, harmonic progressions, modulations, transposition, harmonization, sight reading, and accompanying.

Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will:

1) Play all minor scales, one octave, hands together, at a steady tempo
2) Play all minor arpeggios, one octave, hands together, at a steady tempo
3) Play all minor chord progressions with inversions: i-iv-i-V7-i
4) Harmonize/transpose melodies using block, broken, and arpeggiated accompaniment patterns.
5) Perform a two-handed accompaniment to a given melody.
6) Perform a prepared piece, using correct fingering, hand position, pedal, and demonstrating appropriate development of personal musicianship.

Required Textbook

Alfred's Group Piano for Adults book 1, 2nd edition – Lancaster and Renfrow

Course Requirements

Instructional Methods: Required Practice of Piano

Students are expected to practice daily for a minimum of thirty minutes. It is almost impossible to "cram" at the last minute and pass a piano exam. You are not only expected to play the elements of your exam well, but to do so in a performance setting. Daily preparation is the only way to insure that nerves do not get the best of you!

Assessments

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

Quizzes	10%	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Exam 1	20%	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Exam 2	20%	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Exam 3	50%	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Grading 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% to pass the course.
Students MUST pass the course with a 70% to continue to MUS 236.

Course Calendar

Week 1-4	Regular instruction and quizzes
Week 5	**Exam 1**
Week 6-9	Regular instruction and quizzes
Week 10	**Exam 2**
Week 11-14	Regular instruction and quizzes
Week 15	**Exam 3**

Course and University Procedures / Policies

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

Attendance Policy

Attendance is essential to pass this course. The first three absences will not count against the student. All absences after three will result in a loss of 50 points from the final point total – this is equivalent to half of letter grade. If a student has a note verifying an absence is due to serious illness, doctor's visit, or

university trip, then the absence will be excused. Never assume that an absence is excused! Bring documentation whenever possible. Tardiness after four will result in an absence for that day. Students leaving the classroom before class is dismissed will receive an absence for that day. NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN THE PIANO LAB AT ANY TIME!

Late Assignments and Missed Exams

Late work will not be accepted. During the semester, there will be 8 quizzes. Each quiz is worth 12.5 points. Missed quizzes will not be made up for unexcused absences. Quizzes will not be rescheduled in the situation of lack of preparation due to an absence in the previous class. Students are responsible for keeping up with class assignments even in the case of an absence. You must be in attendance for all exams. Exams will not be made up if missed except for instances of medical emergency, university cancellation, or prearrangements made in the case of university-sponsored trips.

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-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

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, contact the Office of Student Disability Services at 903-886-5150, 903-886—5835; email studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu; online at Office of Student Disability Resources and Services; or in-person in Room 162 of the Velma K. Waters Library.

Tenets of Common Behavior

All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook);

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Campus Concealed Carry - 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 http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf and/or consult your event organizer). 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.