



Applied Piano

Course Syllabus: Fall 2024

Dr. Luis Sanchez
Professor of Piano
Music Building 231
See schedule posted outside office door or set up appointment.
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Preferred communication: Email
Reply response time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbooks

Each student is responsible for acquiring the books/scores assigned for the semester.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the completion of the semester, the student should be able to:

1. Learn and perform accurately at least three pieces from different style periods, a contrapuntal work and an etude.
2. Perform from memory two of the works studied in the semester in studio class and/or studio recital.
3. Apply a healthy approach to the instrument in practice and performance.
4. Play selected scales, arpeggios, chord progressions, exercises, and etudes.
5. Perform from memorize selected works for juries.

Drop Date

If you need to drop this course without penalty, please refer to the current academic calendar. Be aware that your scholarship and/or degree requirements specify a certain number of applied lesson credits. Dropping this course may ultimately affect your scholarship disbursement and/or graduation date.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to attend all required classes and events. Failure to attend mandatory events will result in the deduction of one letter grade from your semester grade. **Only 1 absence will be allowed;** after that, each absence will result in the deduction of 10 points from your semester grade. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course after four absences. Repeated lateness (after two) for class will also be penalized by lowering your final grade by 5 points for each tardy. Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class. If you do not bring your music to your lesson, that lesson will count as an absence.

Students are expected to come prepared to their lesson. Lack of preparation is no excuse for rescheduling lessons. Lessons may only be rescheduled in case of illness, school event, or if I am unavailable. In extreme circumstances, you may consider switching your lesson time with another student. I will distribute

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a studio directory so that you can contact other students in the event you need to switch a lesson. Understand that you should only use this as a last resource and that you must plan your week appropriately to complete your practice and come prepared to your lesson.

By the **third week** of the semester, all students must have purchased copies of their music. Even though you may use photocopies for lessons, you are required to have your OWN music for the midterm and juries. No borrowed books or library copies will be allowed. It is your responsibility and expectation to build your own music library. The Internet and IMSLP are convenient resources, yet many times, these editions have errors in them or are unreliable. If you are uncertain of what editions to buy, please consult with me during the first week of school. Failure to bring your own music for juries and midterm will deduct 2 letter grades from your final grade.

Recording

Students are encouraged to record their lessons and their performances in studio class. If you would like to use the CD recording device that is in my office, you can either use CDs or an SDHC Flash memory card. If you would like me to provide the blank CDs, please bring \$5 to cover the cost of CDs for the entire semester. **It is your responsibility to remind me to insert a blank CD at the beginning of each lesson.** You will also have access to video of lessons and studio classes and other events.

Required Practice

Students are required to **practice daily**. Piano performance majors are required to practice a minimum of 4 hours each day at least 6 days a week. Music education majors and piano minors are required to practice a minimum of 1 hour each day at least 5 days a week.

Repertoire

Each student will have specific repertoire assignments for the entire semester. You will also receive a worksheet indicating your technique requirements for the midterm and juries.

Sight-reading

Each student's sight-reading level will be assessed during the first week of the semester. I have selected the Keith Snell Piano Repertoire publications, published by Kjos, www.kjos.com. Students will be responsible for purchasing the three books (Baroque & Classical, Romantic & Twentieth Century, and Etudes) for the assigned level.

Midterm Exam

The midterm exam will be completed during the 8th week of the semester. Please note that memorization of this piece is not required but must demonstrate that appropriate progress has been made commensurate to the allotted time.

Content of the exam:

1. Technique requirements as determined on the first week of the semester.
2. An etude
3. Sight-reading

Students who are performing a degree recital this semester will not be expected to play the Etude for their midterm, unless it is part of the recital repertoire. A substitute piece will be selected during the first week.

Jury

All students are required to complete a jury which will take place on Thursday during finals week. Students who have completed a degree recital will only be required to perform the technique/sight-reading assignments for the semester.

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Content of the exam:

1. Technique
2. 3-4 contrasting pieces.
3. Sight-reading.

Piano Minors will play the technique assigned for the semester and **two** contrasting pieces.

Recital Hearings and Recitals

Students scheduled to perform a degree recital will be required to successfully complete a recital hearing 3 weeks prior to the scheduled date of the recital. Poor performance in the recital hearing will result in the rescheduling of the recital for the following semester and a failing grade. In extreme circumstances, a student may be allowed to reschedule the recital for the same semester at a later time.

Studio class. Recital and Convocation

All students are expected to perform at least three times during the semester. Participation during the Fall Studio Recital is highly encouraged. Studio class is scheduled on Mondays and Fridays 4:00 to 5:00 pm in the Recital Hall. Please check your e-mail regularly for updates.

Program Notes

You will be responsible for writing program notes for all pieces performed in degree recitals or juries. Program notes will be due on **week 4**. Submission of your program notes must be done electronically, in WORD and saved LASTNAME.FIRSTNAME.PROGRAMNOTES.F22. You will receive a handout with a few samples to help you determine the content, length, and appropriate writing style to complete this assignment.

Practice Room Etiquette

Students will not be allowed to leave books or personal belongings in the piano practice rooms. You may want to have a locker if you would like to store items in the music building. Food and drinks will not be allowed in the practice rooms either. Only bottled water (no open containers!) can be used in the practice room but they should never be placed on the pianos. Please make sure other music students are treating our instruments appropriately.

Piano maintenance: Forms to report problems with the piano can be found on the Piano Bulletin board (By the piano lab). Make sure you complete these forms every time you find an issue with one of the pianos. Try to be as specific and as clear as you can so that the piano technician can fix the problem when he is on campus.

Grading:

Weekly lesson preparation	40%
Midterm	20%
Jury Or Recital	30%
Program Notes/Assignments	10%

A=100-90; B=89-80; C=79-70; D=69-60; F=59-0

UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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>

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<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 Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

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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