



# MUS 138/338 Piano Technique I & II

Course Syllabus: Fall 2024

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Luis Sanchez
Office Location:	Music Building 231
Office Hours:	See schedule posted outside of office door or set up appointment.
Phone:	214-918-1522 (Cell)
University Email Address:	<a href="mailto:luis.sanchez@tamuc.edu">luis.sanchez@tamuc.edu</a>
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.

## COURSE INFORMATION

### Required Textbooks

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### Functional Skills for Pianists

Valerie Cisler, Christopher Fisher, Kenon Renfrow

### Course Description

Piano technique I provides piano majors with supplemental training in the areas of finger dexterity and coordination, score reading, transposition, sight-reading, injury prevention, and special topics.

Comprehensive keyboard musicianship course for advanced pianists emphasizing the development of the following skills: sight reading, harmonization, transposition, improvisation, playing by ear, and vocal and instrumental score reading. Ensemble piano music is performed.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Perform major and minor five-finger patterns with basic accompanying patterns.
2. Play by ear and harmonize melodies with basic chord progressions.
3. Perform basic technical exercises: blocked and broken chords (major, minor, diminished sevenths, and dominant sevenths), arpeggios in all forms, major and minor scales.
4. Perform chromatic scales.
5. Demonstrate understanding of no-conventional scales: modes, whole tone, and pentatonic.
6. Demonstrate understanding of figured bass realization.
7. Demonstrate competency reading choral scores and instrumental scores.
8. Demonstrate competency reading at sight.
9. Perform ensemble piece.

## GRADING

### 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

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

Weekly assignments	40%	SLO 1, 2, 4, 8
Mid-term exam	30%	SLO 3, 6, 9
Final exam	30%	SLO 3, 7

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The course outline and calendar will be distributed in a separate document and will be available on the first day of class.

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# COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Course Specific Procedures/Policies

### Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and events as required by the instructor. **Only one absence is allowed.** Additional absences will result in the deduction of 50 points from the final grade. Failure to attend **mandatory events** will result in the deduction of one letter grade from the final grade. The instructor reserves the right to drop a student from the course after four absences. Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class as long as documentation is provided.

### Tardiness or Early Exit

Tardiness after two will result in the lowering of the final grade by 5 points for each offense. Students leaving the classroom before class is dismissed will receive an absence for that day.

### Late Work and Missed Exams

No late work will be accepted. No late exam submissions 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.

## University Specific Procedures

### COVID-19 Specific Policies

A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students' Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

### 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>

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## **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 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](#)

<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  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Gee Library- Room 162  
Fax (903) 468-8148

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

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

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-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,

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an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **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 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](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](mailto: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

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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>