



MUS 437
Undergraduate Piano Pedagogy Internship
Course Syllabus: Fall 2025

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@etamu.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.

Course Information

Course Description

The student will gain an in-depth knowledge of all facets of the piano pedagogy concentration by doing intensive research and creative projects. The exact research type and requirements will be determined by the topic of study chosen in each area (i.e. research paper with presentation, article reviews, observations, etc.).

Required Textbooks, Subscriptions, and Memberships

To be determined by topic of study.

Subscription to *The Piano Magazine*. Group subscription rates will be offered to class during first two weeks.

Membership to MTNA. Student rates are available. Benefits include the journal, *American Music Teacher*.

Course Requirements

Assessments

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

Preschool/adult student project	20%
Average-age student observations	20 %
Musicianship skills project	20 %
Group activities project	20%
Mini-presentations with documents	20%

Grading Scale

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or below

Course Calendar

The course outline and calendar will be available on the first day of class as well as on D2L.

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

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and events as required by the instructor. Only one absence will be allowed; after that, each absence will result in the deduction of 5 points from your semester grade (equivalent to half a letter grade). Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class. Repeated lateness for class will also be penalized by lowering your final grade. 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 Assignments and Missed Exams

Exams will not be made up if missed unless for instances of medical emergency, university cancellation, or prearrangements made in the case of university-sponsored trip. All tests will be based on material discussed in class. You must be in attendance for all exams. You must be prepared to do your oral presentations on the scheduled day. All assignments must be turned in on or before the specified deadline. Failure to do so will result in one lowered letter grade per day the assignment is late.

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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@etamu.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).

Musician Health and Safety

As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

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 East Texas A&M University 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 ETAMU 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/rulesProcedure/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 ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.