



## **Applied Piano**

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

Dr. Luis Sanchez

Professor of Piano

Music Building 231

See schedule posted outside office door or set up appointment.

Phone: 214-918-1522 (cell)

University Email: luis.sanchez@etamu.edu

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 lessons, studio 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

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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 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. You may use your phone, iPad or any other high-fidelity recording device

### **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](http://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 8<sup>th</sup> week of the semester. Memorization is required.

Content of the exam:

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

Students who are performing a degree recital this semester will substitute the etude/prelude and fugue with one of their recital pieces. This substitution will be determined during the first week of the semester.

### **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.

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 in studio class at least five times during the semester. Upper division students are also required to perform at least once in Convocation, and all students are encouraged to perform in the end of the semester Studio Recital.

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 on D2L. You will find additional information on this course shell on D2L.

### **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.

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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 POLICIES AND STATEMENTS**

**School of Music Mission Statement:**

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

**University Mission Statement:**

East Texas A&M University provides a personal educational experience for a diverse community of life-long learners. Our purpose is to discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service in an interconnected and dynamic world. Our challenge is to nurture partnerships for the intellectual, cultural, social, and economic vitality of Texas and beyond.

**ETAMU 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/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx)

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

**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 POLICIES

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

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities**

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**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Room 162

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

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

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

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

### **East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Student Conduct and 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.

The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Current University Student Guidebook

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>

### **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.

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Website: <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.

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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.

### **Technology Requirements**

#### **LMS**

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

#### **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@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.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 ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

#### **Communication and Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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**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>

**Health and Wellness**

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](#)