



APPLIED PIANO (MUS 152-352-552)

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

Dr. Luis Sanchez

Professor of Piano

Music Building 231

Office hours: Posted outside my office - By appointment only.

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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 memory 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

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 for 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 for 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 2 hours 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. Memorization is required.

Content of the exam:

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 by the third 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. (Depending on length)
3. Required Assigned piece (you will receive this piece 4 weeks before juries and you will prepare it on your own).
4. 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 and graduate students are also required to perform at least once in Convocation, and all students are encouraged to perform at 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.

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	30%
Midterm	20%
Jury	25%
Technique recordings on D2L	15%
Mindfulness Assignment	5%
Program Notes	5%

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

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

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.

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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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

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>

CWID AND PASSWORD

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TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

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, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND SCHOOL OF MUSIC 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.

ENGAGEMENT AND CIVILITY POLICY

ENGAGEMENT

Students are expected to remain fully engaged in class activities during class time. Any student who disengages from class (texts, checks social media, works on assignments for other classes) will be asked to leave the classroom and an unexcused absence will be recorded in D2L.

CIVILITY

All students are expected to 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: <https://www.etamu.edu/student-code-of-conduct>. The tenets apply to all communication to the instructor and your classmates.

Demonstrate commitment to your course of study by contributing thoughtfully to class discussions, turning in assignments in a timely manner, being prompt and dependable, supporting your peers and the instructor, and accepting critiques graciously. Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances.

Cell phones should be turned off before class begins and concealed from view throughout the duration of the class period. Please take care of any necessities (food, drink, restroom) before coming to class so that we may proceed without interruption. If you need to bring a bottle of water, please take care to keep the cap secured. Dispose of all food and chewing gum before class begins. No food, chewing gum, or drinks other than water are allowed in the classroom.

Please be careful with our classroom materials and use them only when instructed. Failure to bring class materials will result in a loss of 50 points.

Be open-minded about other's opinions and thoughts, encouraging them to stretch their boundaries and take risks, and listen attentively to their performances. Failure to conform to these expectations of behavior will result in a lowered grade. Engagement/Performance grades will be given according to the instructor's discretion:

- An A will be earned by the student who arrives early with all materials, exhibits superior attentiveness, is fully prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and is a leader and role model to others.
- A B will be earned by the student who exhibits excellent attentiveness, is prepared for class, participates with enthusiasm, and is a valued asset to others.
- A C will be earned by the student who exhibits average attentiveness, preparation, and class participation.
- A D will be earned by the student who exhibits little attentiveness, preparation, and participation.
- An F will be earned by the student who exhibits no attentiveness, preparation, or participation. This student will be instructed to drop the course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is a fundamental expectation of this course and of the School of Music. Students are expected to complete all assignments honestly and to submit work that represents their own knowledge, effort, and creativity. Any form of academic dishonesty undermines the learning process and is inconsistent with the ethical standards expected of university students and future music professionals.

Students found responsible for cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic misconduct will receive a grade penalty, which may include a zero on the assignment or examination, a failing grade for the course, or other sanctions at the instructor's discretion, consistent with university

policy. Incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students and may result in additional disciplinary action.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Using unauthorized materials, devices, or assistance during quizzes, tests, or examinations.
- Receiving unauthorized help on assignments, papers, projects, or other coursework.
- Obtaining or distributing examination materials without permission.
- Submitting the same paper or project for more than one course without the prior approval of all instructors involved.
- Collaborating on work intended to be completed individually.
- Any action intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Presenting another person's words, ideas, research, or creative work as your own without proper acknowledgment.
- Using direct quotations or paraphrased material without appropriate citation.
- Submitting work prepared wholly or in part by another individual or commercial service.
- Failing to properly credit sources, whether published, unpublished, or obtained through digital media.

Unless explicitly authorized by the instructor, all submitted work must be created by the student(s) enrolled in the course. Students may not hire another person or company to complete coursework on their behalf.

Students who are uncertain whether a particular resource or type of assistance is permitted should consult the instructor **before** submitting the assignment.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

- [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

CLASSROOM ATTIRE

As future music professionals, students are encouraged to view their appearance as part of their professional identity. Developing habits of appropriate dress demonstrates respect for classmates, faculty, guest artists, and the profession, and helps prepare students for the expectations they will encounter in educational and professional settings.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate for a university learning environment and reflects the professional standards of the School of Music. Clothing should be clean, neat, and suitable for participating in class activities, including movement-based exercises, presentations, and guest lectures.

Because students often work in close proximity during rehearsals, classes, and performances, attention to personal hygiene is an important aspect of professionalism and respect for others.

University and School of Music Information

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

East Texas A&M University nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The East Texas A&M University School of Music 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.

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:

Student Disability Services
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

Please note that faculty members are unable to make accommodations unless they have received a letter from SDRS.

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.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

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 the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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 <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

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: <https://www.etamu.edu/music/musician-health-and-safety/>