

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

MSC161

CLASS PIANO I

2 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
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by
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MSC161 Class Piano I

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

- A. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
- B. 2 semester hours credit
- C. Class Piano I is for the beginner and includes note reading, scales and music theory designed to build basic proficiencies for music majors. This course is required for all music majors, except piano majors. Class Piano I is open to non-music majors with instructor approval. (F,S)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

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| Play two-part polyphonic pieces, bass and treble clef, in several keys, and using regular and dotted rhythms. | Classroom lectures, demonstrations, individual practice, classroom drills, written tests, and playing tests. |
| Play simple four-part homophonic pieces in several keys using regular and dotted rhythms. | |
| Play the 12-bar blues progression in a variety of styles and in a variety of keys with the left hand while doing simple improvisation with the right hand. | |
| Demonstrate all major, minor, and perfect intervals on the keyboard. | |
| Play several pieces by memory. | |
| Demonstrate how to construct major and minor scales on any given note. | |
| Play major scales and arpeggios with both hands together, two octaves, in the keys of C, G, D, A, E, B, and F#. | |
| Play the I, IV, V7, I cadence with both hands in the keys of C, G, D, A, E, B, and F#. | |
| Write key signatures for all major and minor keys. | |

III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

The student will identify, discuss, demonstrate or perform the following for each unit:

- A. Unit One
 1. Proper seating and hand positions, finger numbers
 2. Review of basic note values
 3. Visual layout of the keyboard, black-key improvisation
 4. Naming the white keys
 5. Octaves

6. C-D-E groups, F-G-A-B groups
7. Dynamics, first and second endings, repeat signs
8. First solo piece – Summer Night, p 15
9. Whole and Half Steps; sharps, flats and naturals; the Chromatic scale
10. Five-finger Patterns
11. Introduction of the staff, treble clef and bass clef
12. Introduction of the Grand Staff
13. Time signatures, tempo, and articulation
14. Reading bass and treble-clef melodies
15. Rests
16. Reading on the Grand Staff
17. Intervals – harmonic and melodic
18. Review

B. Unit Two

1. Eighth Notes, Rests, Dotted Quarter Notes
2. Introduction to 6/8 time
3. Introduction to Key Signatures
4. First Grand Staff piece – *Miniature Waltz*
5. Introduction to Sightreading
6. Harmonization using harmonic 5ths.
7. Review Worksheet

C. Unit Three

1. Major Five-Finger Patterns
2. Major Triads
3. Introduction of 3/8 Time
4. Introduction of Transposition
5. Sightreading and literature
6. Harmonization using tonic (I) and dominant (V)
7. First duets, introduction of D. C. al fine

D. Unit Four

1. Major Five-Finger Patterns
2. Chords and 5-finger patterns on black keys
3. Solos: *Dance, Echoes of Scotland*
4. Rhythm reading, technique development and sight-reading
5. Harmonization
6. Ensembles

E. Unit Five

1. Major five-finger pattern groups
2. Introduction to sixteenth notes
3. Solo: *A Little Joke*
4. Sight-reading
5. Harmonization using one and *two* hands
6. Ensembles

- F. Group 1 and 2 Major Scales
 1. Whole and half-step patterns
 2. Group 1 hand patterns (C, G, D, A, E major)
 3. Scales as patterns vs. the need for extended note reading
 4. Group 2 hand patterns (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb major)

- G. Unit Ten
 1. Diatonic triads
 2. Introduction to arpeggios
 3. Group I arpeggios (C, G, D, A, E)
 4. Reading and harmonization using arpeggios and diatonic chords

- H. Unit Eleven
 1. Triads in first inversion
 2. Triads in second inversion
 3. Triads in all inversions in Group I keys
 4. Solo: *Etude*
 5. Sight-reading and harmonization using inversions

- I. Unit Twelve
 1. Tonic and Dominant Chords
 2. The V7 chord and its inversions
 3. Introduction to Group II Arpeggios
 4. Solos: *German Dance*, *Allegretto*, and *Dance*
 5. Harmonization using tonic and dominant chords

- J. Unit Thirteen
 1. Tonic and Subdominant
 2. I – IV – I progression
 3. Solo: Minuet in F Major
 4. Alberti bass and waltz bass
 5. Harmonization using alberti and waltz bass

- K. Unit Fourteen
 1. Playing the I – IV – I – V7 – I chord progression
 2. Solo: Funny Event
 3. Ensemble Repertoire
 4. Sight-reading
 5. Harmonization using various accompaniment styles

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lectures
- B. Demonstrations

C. Individual playing

D. Group playing

V. REQUIRED TEXTS

Lancaster, E. L. and Kenon D. Renfrow, *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults*, Book 1 w/ CD, New York: Alfred Publishing Company, 2004.

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS (Student)

A. Piano or electric keyboard at home, or personal class schedule which allows for frequent practice in the piano lab.

B. Pencil

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

None

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION (Student)

A. Tests containing both playing and written elements

B. Final exam

C. Attendance

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; 636-797-3000, ext. 169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website, <http://vega.jeffco.edu/jkuchar/pdf/sh1011.pdf>)