



MUSIC 121C PIANO 1

02 Credits

MWF 9:30 – 10:20

INSTRUCTOR: Gloria Faltstrom
OFFICE: Hale Palanakila 130
OFFICE HOURS: MWF: 10:30 - 11:30
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EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2008

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College is committed to excellence in the liberal arts and career development; we support and challenge individuals to develop skills, fulfill their potential, enrich their lives, and become contributing, culturally aware members of our community.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Basic principles of performance. Relevant problems in piano literature at elementary level. MUS 121C, 122C must be taken in sequence. Student will complete one level of MusicLab Melody and may take MUS 101 for credit. Repeatable up to 6 credits; 2 credits applicable toward A.A. degree. (3 hrs. lect/studio) WCC: DA

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Individual practice of thirty minutes per day on assigned work.
Individual sessions on MusicLab Melody at home or in Music Computer Room.
Semester recital participation: December 19, 2008, 10:30AM to 12:00 PM, Paliku Theater.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of MUS 121C, the student should be able to:

1. Identify and write the basic concepts of music notation.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts in accurate performances.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of piano development.
4. Perform in class and the semester recital with some confidence.

COURSE CONTENT

Concepts or Topics

- Posture, including hand position
- Note values
- Pitch names
- Time signatures
- Staccato
- Legato
- Phrase
- Intervals
- Triads
- Chord progressions
- Five-finger patterns, major and minor
- Major scales
- Dynamics

Skills or Competencies

1. *Play pieces with correct notes and fingering*
2. *Apply concepts of articulation to playing*
3. *Observe dynamic markings*
4. *Play five-finger patterns in sequence with the recorded background*
5. *Play pieces with accurate rhythms*
6. *Learn to set up the keyboard to play with recorded music*

COURSE TASKS

1. *Learn and Demonstrate the Basic Aspects of Piano Technique*
 - a. **Five-Finger Scale Patterns** in all major and minor keys. These should be practiced daily in contrary and parallel motion and may be included on in-class quizzes and exams.
 - b. **Major Scales:** one octave, one hand. These should be practiced daily and may be included on in-class quizzes.
 - c. **Primary Chords** in all keys in block and broken patterns. These should be practiced daily and may be included on in-class quizzes.
 - d. **Harmonization** of lead-sheet melodies using the primary chords for certain keys. Harmonization may be included on exams.
 - e. **Intervals:** Learning to recognize the look and feel of each interval in an octave.
2. *Apply Piano Techniques to musical compositions*
 - a. **Sight Reading** is one of the most important aspects of technique is learning to play a composition on sight with as much accuracy of pitch, rhythm, and phrasing as possible. Sight reading techniques will be emphasized in the teaching methods practiced in each class session. This should be practiced daily at home, as well.
 - b. **Transposition** is playing a composition in a different key than it was originally written in. This technique will be practiced regularly in class and should be a part of your home practice.
 - c. **Improvisation.** You will try your hand at making up short melodies. There is no right or wrong in this activity, and you will not be graded on your responses.
3. *Attendance*

- a. **Unexcused Absences:** You are allowed two unexcused absences with no penalty during the semester. Additional unexcused absences will result in deductions from your final grades as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 3-4 unexcused absences | A > B |
| 5-6 unexcused absences | B > C |
| 7-8 unexcused absences | C > D |
| 9-10 unexcused absences | D > F |
- b. **Excused Absences:** Excused absences will be granted for genuine illness (doctor's notes are good documentation) or emergencies (must be documented). A call to my office (236-9130) or an email will alert me to your situation.

4. *Performance*

- a. **In-class performance.** You will be required to learn and perform several test pieces. Three will be part of your mid-terms and final exam; the other two will be played with and for your fellow students (and, of course, the instructor).
- b. **End-of-semester recital.** All students in WCC's music classes perform for each other (one composition each). The normal date is the day after the last day of final exams. This semester the recital will be held on December 19, 2008.

Criteria for performance evaluation are as follows:

- 1) Accuracy of notes and rhythm
- 2) Observance of dynamic markings
- 3) Correct articulation (legato and staccato)
- 4) Musical interpretation
- 5) Fluidity of performance

5. *Music Theory*

Class work will include learning to read and write:

- Pitches on the staff on both clefs
- Intervals of the octave
- Major and minor five-pattern groups
- Major, minor, augmented and diminished chords
- Chord progressions
- Rhythmic patterns and time signatures
- Arpeggios

6. *MusicLab Melody* (Training in rhythmic sight reading--MUS 101)

You are required to complete Basic modules 1-10 for of MusicLab Melody (MLM) during the semester. You may register for MUS 101 and receive 1 additional hour of credit. MLM is an individualized course designed to develop proficiency in sight reading rhythmic and melodic patterns. You will need to schedule a minimum of three thirty-minute sessions in the Music Lab (Hale Palanakila 109) each week. See MUS 101 course outline for details.

There will be an orientation session early in the semester during class. You will need to bring your MLM disk (purchased at the bookstore) with you to that session. You may contact the instructor for assistance at any point during the semester when you have problems. The quizzes for each module may be taken at any time, since they are completed on the computer and the scores stored on the server.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Method of Grading

Points will be assigned as follows:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Test Pieces (2 x 100)	200
Exams	300
Review Worksheets (7 X 5)	35
MusicLab Melody	75
Attendance	86 (MWF)
	62 (TTh)
Recital Participation	<u>50</u>
Total Points	750

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

A	675 – 750 and no more than 2 unexcused absences
B	600 - 674 and no more than 4 unexcused absences
C	525 - 599 and no more than 6 unexcused absences
D	450 - 524 and no more than 8 unexcused absences
F	Less than 524 and/or more than 8 unexcused absences
C/NC	See WCC catalog for information related to this option.
I	Incomplete. See WCC catalog for information related to this option.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Required:

E.L. Lancaster & Kenon D. Renfrow: *Alfred's Piano 101*
 MusicLab Melody Disk
 Pencil

Optional:

Manuscript (music) paper
 Piano 101 CD (Optional)

Suggested Supplementary Reading:

Ristad, Eloise: A Soprano on Her Head

Additional Information

Student Responsibilities:

- Attend class regularly.
- Practice at least ONE HOUR outside of class for each class session.
- Participate actively in class discussions and drills.
- Prepare ALL assignments on time.
- Be present for exams. You must notify the instructor AHEAD OF TIME if you are unable to take an exam at the designated time. Call my office (236-9130) or the switchboard (235-7400) to report an absence.

Practice Hints:

- Prepare to play a piece by reading it through with your eyes for note and rhythm patterns.
- Practice SLOWLY and ACCURATELY; learn hands separately.
- Don't allow yourself to make mistakes; they just have to be unlearned.
- Always go back at least one note to correct a mistake; don't play the wrong note, then right note in sequence more than once, because that is the pattern you will learn.
- Don't play pieces straight through each time. Try these alternatives:
 - Practice one measure-plus-one note.
 - Play the piece backwards--start with the last couple of measures, then go back one or two more and play to the end, then a little further back, etc., until you are playing from the beginning to the end.
 - COUNT ALOUD! It works!!!

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale 'Akoakoa 213 for more information.

1. The recital is in Paliku Theater. You will be able to enter through the lobby doors about 9:30 A.M. The recital BEGINS at 10:30 AM. Come early; this will allow you time to practice and do some relaxation techniques. If that is not possible, at least be on time.
2. Dress as though you were going to a nice place. Shorts, rubber slippers, cut-off tops, hats or caps of any sort and sunglasses may not be worn. Even though bare belly buttons are the current rage, yours will need to be covered for the recital.

Suggested attire:

Men	Slacks, aloha or golf shirt, shoes and socks
Women	Nice dress and shoes, skirt and blouse, dress slacks and top

3. Take care of going to the bathroom and drinking water BEFORE 10:30. Once the recital begins, you need to stay in the theater. You may NOT simply play or sing and leave unless you have presented me with a written statement from your boss that you are required to work before 12:30. Staying only until you have performed is very rude to the other performers.
4. Should you arrive late (in spite of all my admonitions), listen to see if someone is performing before rushing into the theater. If you hear music, wait outside until the applause begins and only then enter the room.
6. Remember to bring your food for the potluck. Take dishes to Palanakila 117 (Faculty Conference room).
7. Your singing or playing is a gift to the others in the room. Have a good time!

Name _____ Piano 1 (MWF / TTh) Date _____

Playing Test # _____ Title _____ Composer _____

Performance Evaluation Criteria

Rhythm & Tempo	Excellent (16-20) Speed reflects tempo marking; rhythms are accurately played	Good (10-15) Tempo is slower or faster than marking; some inaccurate rhythms	Fair (5-9) Tempo is too slow for tempo marking; many rhythmic mistakes	Score _____
Comments:				
Posture, Hand Position & Fingering	Excellent (16-20) Erect posture; wrist is level and fingers curved; correct fingers are consistently used	Good 10-15) A little slouching; wrist droops sometimes and fingers are not all curved; some fingering errors	Fair (5-9) Slouching or too close to piano; low wrist and straight fingers; many fingering errors	Score _____
Comments:				
Dynamics	Excellent (16-20) Nearly all dynamic markings are properly played	Good (10-15) Some of the dynamic markings are properly played	Fair (5-9) Dynamic marking are generally ignored	Score _____
Comments:				
Articulation	Excellent (16-20) Most phrasing, legato and staccato played properly	Good (10-15) Phrasing, legato and staccato played properly about half the time	Fair (5-9) Many mistakes in phrasing, legato and staccato	Score _____
Comments:				
Accuracy & Fluidness	Excellent (16-20) Mostly free of mistakes; no interruptions in the flow of the music	Good (10-15) Several noticeable mistakes; some interruptions in the flow of the music	Fair (5-9) Many mistakes; music has a halting quality instead of flow	Score _____
Comments:				
Total				Total _____