MUSIC 121C
PIANO 1
2 CREDITS
MTWTh 10:00 AM - 11:35 AM

INSTRUCTOR: So Jin Kimura
OFFICE: Hale Palanakila 152
OFFICE HOURS: MTWTh 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
BY APPOINTMENT
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E-MAIL: sojin.kimura@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Summer 2010

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. Repeatable up to 6 credits; 2 credits applicable toward A.A. degree.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times

Individual practice of thirty minutes per day on assigned work.

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 with 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

   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.

   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.

   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**

The nature of this course requires you to attend every class session. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before class in order to settle in, warm-up, and be ready. In the event that you are absent, it is your responsibility to make sure you schedule a time with me to catch-up on the work missed.

4. **Performance**

   A. **In-class performance.** You will be required to learn and perform several test pieces.

   **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 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.
**GRADING**

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playing Exams</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**LEARNING RESOURCES**

**Required:**
- E.L. Lancaster & Kenon D. Renfrow: *Alfred's Piano 101*
- Manuscript (music) paper
- Pencil

**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.

**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.
- 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.*