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.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Identify the basic concepts of music notation.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts in accurate performance.
3. Demonstrate ability to learn and play pieces.
4. Perform in class with confidence.

COURSE CONTENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concepts or Topics</th>
<th>Skills or Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posture, including hand position</td>
<td>Play pieces with correct notes and fingering.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Note values</td>
<td>Apply concepts of articulation to playing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pitch names</td>
<td>Observe dynamic markings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time signatures</td>
<td>Play five-finger patterns in sequence with the recorded background.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staccato vs. Legato</td>
<td>Play pieces with accurate rhythms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phrase</td>
<td>Learn to set up the keyboard to play with recorded music.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intervals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Triads/Chord progressions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five-finger patterns, major and minor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major scales</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dynamics</td>
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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 and will be included on exams.
   b. One octave Major Scales, two hands separately.
   c. Primary Chords in all keys in block and broken patterns. These should be practiced daily and will be included on exams.
   d. Harmonization of lead-sheet melodies using the primary chords for certain keys. Harmonization will be included on exams.
   e. Learning to recognize the look and feel of intervals in an octave.
   f. Playing a new piece for the first time (sight-reading.) Sight-reading will be included on exams.

2. *Apply Piano Techniques to musical compositions*

   Every time you read a piece of music for the first time without any practice, you are sight-reading. The key to sight-reading is to **KEEP GOING! DO NOT STOP!** Once you stop and go over a part again, it is not sight-reading anymore. You are now practicing. You **will** make mistakes. It is not meant to be perfect. You are trying to catch as many notes and symbols as possible. Sight-reading techniques will be emphasized in the teaching methods practiced in each class session. This should be practiced daily at home.

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. *Class Performances*

   There will be two In-Class Performances throughout the semester and the Fall Piano Concert at the end of the semester. Criteria for performance evaluation are as follows:

   a. Accuracy of notes and rhythm
   b. Observance of dynamic markings
   c. Correct articulation (legato and staccato)
   d. Musical interpretation
   e. Fluidity of performance

5. *Concert Attendance*

   You will have the opportunity to attend live solo piano concerts throughout the semester. You are to attend at least two concerts by two different people. A schedule will be posted in the Piano Lab. Be sure to sign-in at the concert to indicate you attended.
GRADING

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Exams/ Performances</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concert Attendance</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
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IMPORTANT DATES

**Exam 1** – Week of September 17, 2012  
**Exam 2** – Week of October 22, 2012  
**Student Showcase rehearsal** – November 29, 2012 at 7 pm in Paliku Theater  
**Student Showcase** – November 30, 2012 at 7 pm in Paliku Theater  
**Exam 3** – Week of November 26, 2012  
**Fall Piano Concert rehearsal** – December 6, 2012 (schedule TBD)  
**Fall Piano Concert** – December 7, 2012 at 7 pm in Paliku Theater *(MANDATORY)*  
*(These dates may change.)*

LEARNING RESOURCES

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Student Responsibilities:

a. Attend class regularly.  
b. **Cell phones are to remain out of sight. No texting or playing with phones during class.**  
c. Practice at least much as you can outside of class for each class session. You may practice in the Piano Lab. Please ask the instructor or maintenance to open the Piano Lab for you. Let them know you are a student in the Piano I class, show them your book, and they will let you in. Make sure all keyboards are turned off before you leave. If you are the last one in the room, turn off the lights and close the door. It is very important that the room is secured when everyone leaves.  
d. Participate actively in class discussions.  
e. Be present for exams.

Practice Hints:

a. Prepare to play a piece by scanning it through with your eyes for note and rhythm patterns.  
b. Practice SLOWLY and ACCURATELY; learn hands separately. Once you’re ready, put the hands together, still going SLOWLY and ACCURATELY.  
c. Don’t **allow** yourself to make mistakes. Play only when you are ready.  
d. Don’t play the wrong note, then right note in sequence more than once, because that is the pattern you will learn.
e. Don't play pieces straight through every time. That is not practicing. That is performing. You are only hoping that you will play it right the next time. Try these alternatives:
   - Practice one measure + one note.
   - Isolate the problem. Find the section in the music that is giving you the most difficulty and start your practice from there. Only move on to another section if you are satisfied with what you just did.

f. COUNT ALOUD! It works!!

g. Consistent practice is what will lead to success.

h. Most of all, have fun!

**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.