MUSIC 121C
PIANO 1
Summer 2012
MTWR 10:30 am-12:05 pm

INSTRUCTOR: So Jin Kimura
OFFICE: Hale Palanakila 101
OFFICE HOURS: MTWR 9:30-10:30 am
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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

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<td>Apply concepts of articulation to playing.</td>
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<td>Time signatures</td>
<td>Play five-finger patterns in sequence with the recorded background.</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.
   g. Transposition is playing a composition in a different position (key) than it was originally written in. This technique will be practiced regularly in class and should be a part of your home practice. Transposition 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

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
Grading

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

Attendance/Participation: 50%
Playing Exams/In-class Performances: 50%
TOTAL: 100%

Important Dates

Exam 1 – July 12, 2012
Exam 2 – July 26, 2012
(Exam 3 – August 9, 2012)

All exams will be given during class time.
*(These dates may be changed. Exam 3 may or may not be given, depending on time.)*

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 ʻAkoakoa 213 for more information.