MUSIC 121C  
PIANO 1  
Fall 2014  
MW 10:00 – 11:45 am

INSTRUCTOR: So Jin Kimura  
OFFICE HOURS: TW 9-10 am  
OFFICE: Hale Palanakila 116  
By appointment

TELEPHONE: 236-9145  
E-MAIL: sojin.kimura@hawaii.edu

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 performances.
3. Demonstrate ability to learn and play pieces.
4. Perform in class with confidence.

COURSE CONTENT

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

Skills or Competencies  
Play pieces with correct notes and fingering.  
Apply concepts of articulation to playing.  
Observe dynamic markings.  
Play five-finger patterns in sequence with the recorded background.  
Play pieces with accurate rhythms.  
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; LH and RH together. These should be practiced daily and will be included on exams.
   b. One-octave Major Scales; LH and RH separately.
   c. Primary Chords in block and broken patterns; LH and RH separately. 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.

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 three In-Class Performances throughout the semester as well as 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
   f. Stage presence

GRADING

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Exams</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Performances (self-evaluation)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-part Ensemble for Fall Concert (Dress rehearsal and Concert)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMPORTANT DATES

Exam 1 – Week of September 15
In-Class Performance 1 – September 22 & 23
Exam 2 – Week of October 27
In-Class Performance 2 – November 3 & 4
Exam 3 – Week of December 1
In-Class Performance 3 – December 8 & 9
Fall Piano Concert Dress Rehearsal – Thursday, December 11 at (MANDATORY)
Fall Piano Concert – Friday, December 12 at 7 pm (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. Participate actively in class discussions.
c. Be present for exams.
d. **Cell phones are to remain out of sight. No texting or playing with phones during class.**
e. Practice at much as you can outside of class for each class session. Consistent practice will help you succeed.
f. Practice rooms (105, 107, and 109A) are available for use with a key from the library. You will need to show your ID before they can issue you a key. The key will go onto your student account, so please make sure you return the key or you will be responsible for it if it is lost.
g. Please make sure you close the door behind you. Some of the doors do not shut on their own. Let’s all make sure we help in keeping our property safe.
h. Room 107 has 4 keyboards. If you and your ensemble would like to practice, you have priority over others who are practicing on a single keyboard. Each member will need to submit their ID to be able to use this room.
i. 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.
j. Everyone will be part of a 4-part ensemble for the Fall Concert.
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.