



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®  
**WINDWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Mus 121C, Piano 1**  
**2 credits (CRN 64424)**  
**TR 10:00 – 11:15 am**

**INSTRUCTOR:** So Jin Kimura  
**OFFICE:** Palanakila 109  
**OFFICE HOURS:** TR 9:30 - 10 am  
By appointment  
**TELEPHONE:** 236-9145  
**EMAIL:** [sojink@hawaii.edu](mailto:sojink@hawaii.edu)  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Spring 2023

### **WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

*Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai'i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide the Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.*

### **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**

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

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  
 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.  
 Play pieces with accurate rhythms.  
 Learn to perform as a group.  
 Learn the basics of successful sight-reading.

## COURSE TASKS

### 1. *Learn and Demonstrate the Basic Aspects of Piano Technique*

- a. Five-finger Scale Patterns; LH and RH together.
- b. One-octave Major Scales; LH and RH separately.
- c. Primary Chords in block and broken patterns; LH and RH separately.
- d. Harmonization of lead-sheet melodies using the primary chords for certain keys.
- e. Learning to recognize the look and feel of intervals in an octave.
- f. Playing a new piece for the first time (sight-reading.)

### 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.

### 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.

You are allowed two unexcused absences with no penalty during the semester. Additional unexcused absences will result in deductions from your final grade. Excused absences will be granted for genuine illness (doctor's note) or emergencies (must be documented). An email will alert me to your situation.

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. Each class session builds on the last class, so keep on top of things. If you miss more than one class, do not give up. I will help you catch up to the rest of the class.

### 4. *Class Performances*

There will be three In-Class Performances throughout the semester as well as the Spring Piano Concert at the end of the semester. For the In-Class Performances, you will perform the solo piece you prepared for the exam. These performances will either be held in the Piano Lab or Paliku Theater. I will video all performances and email you your recording. You will then need to email me a self-evaluation of your performance within one week of the In-Class Performance.

**IMPORTANT DATES** *\*(These dates may change.)\**

**Exam 1** – Week of February 6  
**In-Class Performance 1** – Week of February 13  
**Exam 2** – Week of March 20  
**In-Class Performance 2** – Week of March 27  
**Exam 3** – Week of April 24  
**In-Class Performance 3** – Week of May 1  
**Fall Piano Concert** – May 5 (MANDATORY)

**\*ALL DATES ARE MANDATORY IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY PASS THE COURSE\***

### ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

Attendance	25%
3 Playing Exams	25%
In-Class Performances (self-evaluation)	25%
<u>Spring Concert (Dress rehearsal and Concert)</u>	<u>25%</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### LEARNING RESOURCES

**Required:** E.L. Lancaster & Kenon D. Renfrow: *Alfred's Piano 101*

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- a. **Cell phones are to remain out of sight. No texting or playing with phones during class.**
- b. **No matter how tempting it is, do not write in the note names in your book. You are here to learn how to read music, not letters.**
- c. Participate actively in class discussions and be present for exams.
- d. Practice at much as you can outside of class for each class session. Consistent practice will help you succeed.
- e. Practice rooms (105 and 107) 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.
- f. 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.
- g. 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.
- h. You may practice in the Piano Lab before and after class. If you are the last one in the room, make sure all keyboards are turned off, turn off the lights, and close the door. It is very important that the room is secured when everyone leaves.
- i. You will be learning the necessary tools to interpret music. If you are not sure about something, first look in the book. When it comes to note reading, answers will not be given to you, so use what you have learned in class to figure out the answer. Learning music is a lot like Math.

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 ACCOMMODATIONS**

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](mailto:lemke@hawaii.edu), or you may stop by Hale 'Ākoakoa 213 for more information.

## **TITLE IX**

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination; sexual harassment and gender-based harassment, including harassment based on actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; sexual assault; sexual exploitation; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking. For more information regarding your rights under Title IX, please visit: [https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title\\_IX/](https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/).

Windward Community College is committed to the pursuit of equal education. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination or gender-based violence, WCC has resources to support you. To speak with someone confidentially, contact the Mental Health & Wellness Office at 808-235- 7393 or Kaahu Alo, Designated Confidential Advocate for Students, at 808-235-7354 or [kaahualo@hawaii.edu](mailto:kaahualo@hawaii.edu). To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Karla K. Silva-Park, at 808-235-7468 or [karlas@hawaii.edu](mailto:karlas@hawaii.edu).

## **ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

Location: Alakai 121  
 Phone: 808-235-7422  
 Email: [wccaa@hawaii.edu](mailto:wccaa@hawaii.edu)

## **Spring Concert Dress Code**

It is very important that we dress appropriately for our annual Spring Concert. We are representing the Piano Program as well as the school. The concert will be held in the evening, so there is a dress code we need to follow:

### **Acceptable Attire for Men (how you would dress for a job interview)**

Long-sleeved collared shirt, any color, tucked in

Tie is optional

Long slacks, any color

Socks

Covered dress shoes

**NO** T-shirts

**NO** Shorts

**NO** Jeans

**NO** Slippers

### **Acceptable Attire for Women**

Long dress with sleeve, any color

Short dress with sleeve, any color (needs to be below knees)

Blouse with sleeve and long skirt

Blouse with sleeve and short skirt (needs to be below knees)

Covered shoes (high heels or flats)

Hair needs to be out of your face.

**\*Spaghetti strap and strapless dresses are allowed ONLY if you wear a cardigan over it.\***

**NO** T-shirt

**NO** Shorts

**NO** Jeans

**NO** Slippers, sandals

**NO** Tube dresses or dresses that stick to your body

**NO** see-through material

### **Additional dress code information**

1. Keep jewelry to a minimum. Please refrain from wearing bracelets or rings. They can damage the piano.

2. Please refrain from too much perfume and cologne. The general rule is, "If we can smell you but not see you, that's too much."

3. Our dress rehearsal will be in concert attire. This is so you can practice walking on and off with the clothes you picked out. Ladies, it is important to bring your shoes because you will be able to see if they are practical to wear while walking to the piano. Also keep in mind that if you are wearing a long dress and heels, the heel can get caught on the hem of your dress, so practice picking up your dress and walking. If you wear a top that is loose by the neck area, place your hand on your chest and bow.

4. If you decide that what you wore at dress rehearsal is not comfortable, please make sure you talk to me before changing your wardrobe.