



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Mus 121C, Piano 1
2 credits (CRN 62273)
TR 10:00 – 11:15 am/online

INSTRUCTOR: So Jin Kimura
OFFICE: Palanakila 109
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
TELEPHONE: 236-9145
EMAIL: sojink@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2024

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 TASKS1. *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 For the In-Class Performances, you will perform the solo piece you prepared for the exam. 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.)****In-Class Performance 1** – February 6**Exam 2** – Week of February 5**In-Class Performance 2** – March 12**Exam 3** – Week of March 11**In-Class Performance 3** – April 30**Exam 1** – Week of April 29***ALL DATES ARE MANDATORY IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY PASS THE COURSE*****ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING**

Grades will be assigned in the following manner:

Attendance	50%
3 Playing Exams/In-Class Performance	50%
TOTAL	100%

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. 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.
- h. 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, 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/.

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. To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Karla K. Silva-Park, at 808-235-7468 or 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