

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: MUSCP 10

Title: ELEMENTARY PIANO

Full Title: Elementary Piano

Last Reviewed: 10/6/2008

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	2.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	2.00	Lab Scheduled	1.00	6	Lab Scheduled	17.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 122.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 39 - Total 2 Times

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
An introductory course that develops rudimentary piano technique through a study of music reading, functional skills, improvisation, and repertoire. Designed for students with little or no prior music background.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: An introductory course that develops rudimentary piano technique through a study of music reading, functional skills, improvisation, and repertoire. Designed for students with little or no prior music background. (Grade Only)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended:  
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit:  
Repeatability: Total 2 Times

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and interpret the symbols of music notation.
2. Sight read accurately at an elementary level.
3. Perform beginning-level piano repertoire with expressiveness.
4. Evaluate their performance and the performance of others to develop critical listening skills.
5. Apply effective practice procedures.
6. Demonstrate technical skills and facility on the piano at a beginning level.
7. Apply functional harmony skills to harmonize melodies.
8. Utilize music vocabulary corresponding to notation, technique, and theoretical concepts.

Students repeating this course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate greater technical achievement on the piano.
2. Articulate musical phrases with greater clarity.
3. Demonstrate greater skill in sight reading.
4. Perform more difficult repertoire.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Technique and Theory
  - A. Use of the forearms, hands, and fingers
  - B. Use of the damper pedal
  - C. Changing dynamics
  - D. Legato vs. staccato
  - E. Whole and half steps
  - F. All major and minor five-finger patterns
  - G. Major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads (blocked and broken)
  - H. Blocked intervals to the octave
  - I. Tonic, dominant, and subdominant harmonies
  - J. Reading figured bass and chord symbols

## II. Music Reading

- A. Pitches on the grand staff
- B. Rhythmic notation in simple and compound meters
- C. Major key signatures

## III. Functional Skills

- A. Harmonizing a melody with blocked primary chords
- B. Improvising short melodies in five-finger patterns
- C. Transposing melodies in five-finger patterns

## IV. Repertoire and Performance

- A. In-class performance of assigned pieces that use the elements listed above
- B. Developing performance skills and proper stage deportment

## V. Practice

- A. Developing effective practice procedures
- B. Analyzing the music for form, rhythms, pitches, fingering, and technique
- C. Working with tempo
- D. Memorization (optional)

(Repeating students will perform new music each semester, enhancing their skill level and broadening their knowledge of the repertoire.)

### **Assignment:**

#### Technique/Theory/Music Reading

1. Keyboard geography (notes and intervals) to develop the ability to hear sounds and locate them on the keyboard.
2. Read pitches on the grand staff by landmarks and intervals, with a steady pulse, using logical fingerings, and with attention to articulation, dynamics, and phrasing.
3. Identify melodic and harmonic patterns.
4. Sight reading flash cards.
5. Rhythm and movement exercises.
6. Worksheets in music theory and notation.

#### Functional Skills

1. Harmonize five-finger-pattern melodies with blocked chords.
2. Improvise melodies in five-finger patterns.
3. Transpose melodies in five-finger patterns.

#### Repertoire

1. Prepare two or more assigned pieces for performance in class.
2. Demonstrate effective practice methods.

Final exam by individual appointment testing sight reading, technique, and functional skills.  
(Repeating students will be held to higher standards of performance with each repetition.)

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments and skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.	Writing 0 - 0%
<b>Problem Solving:</b> Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.	
Harmonizing melodies, transposition, improvisation	Problem solving 20 - 30%
<b>Skill Demonstrations:</b> All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.	
Sight reading, technique evaluations, in-class performances	Skill Demonstrations 60 - 75%
<b>Exams:</b> All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.	
None	Exams 0 - 0%
<b>Other:</b> Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.	
Attendance and participation, worksheets	Other Category 5 - 10%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

PianoLab, An Introduction to Class Piano (6th). Lindeman, Carolynn A. Thomson/Schirmer (Cengage): 2008.

Piano For Pleasure (4th). Hilley, Martha and Lynn Freeman Olson. Schirmer Publishing: 2002.

First Steps in Keyboard Literature. Olson, Lynn Freeman. Alfred: 1987 (classic text).

Progressive Class Piano (2nd). Heerema, Elmer. Alfred: 1984 (classic text).