

SYLLABUS FOR BEGINNING PIANO

mus108K

Spring 2018

M/W 12-12:50 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Robin Miller

rm358@humboldt.edu

Office 215

Office Hours by Appointment

This class will meet in Music B, room 207 (the piano lab)

Required Text and Materials:

1. Alfred's Group Piano, Book I, second edition by E.L. Lancaster and Kenon D.

Renfrow (additional repertoire may be assigned)

3. Music Staff Paper

4. Pencils

In this class you will learn the rudiments of piano playing, as well as basic musicianship skills. Learning to play music is one of the great joys in life. Hopefully, this will be a journey which, for you, will last a lifetime! There are certain practices that will enhance your enjoyment of the class as well as your your success and feeling of accomplishment. Please consider me your guide and cheerleader in this endeavor. I am always happy to collaborate with you to improve your experience.

 Attendance:

Attendance for this class is mandatory, and your final grade will be, in part, determined by your presence and your level of participation in class. Students will acquire and apply new skills in every class. These skills are continually comprehensive, meaning new skills will require mastery of previously learned material. Absences will be excused at instructor's discretion. Please email me prior to class time about any planned absences. Class will begin on time (we have lots of ground to cover!). If you are aware of something that will require you to be late prior to class time please speak with me over email or in person so we can discuss arrangements.

Let's protect our valuable equipment! Therefore PLEASE...

No open containers of any kind. This includes water bottles!

Please turn cell phones, etc. Off, or set them to silent and put them in your bag.

To avoid accidents, please place all backpacks or bags along the walls or tucked away under your keyboard.

Please treat all instruments and headphones with care!

Grading:

Attendance and Participation: 40 %

Quizzes: 40 %

Final Exam: 20%

Grading Scale:

A = 100-90% B = 89-80% C = 79-70% D = 69-60% F = 59% or lower.

Practice Expectations: 30-45 minutes a day is suggested. Practice rooms are available in Music A.. An access card is required, see me for the form. Since this class is open to music majors and non-music majors, there will be a higher level of expectation for those in the class who are music majors. You will be given slightly more difficult repertoire and technical exercises. Non-majors are welcome to prepare these assignments for extra credit.

In MUS 108K you will learn to:

- 1) Demonstrate a basic understanding of musical elements (rhythm, melody, harmony, structure, and notation).
- 2) Construct and perform various five finger patterns and root position triads in all major and minor keys over entire range of keyboard.
- 3) Play major scales beginning on white keys (CDGAE); two octaves. hands together in parallel motion.
- 4) Demonstrate an ability to improvise simple accompaniments on a given melody using I & V (tonic & dominant) chords in all major and minor keys.
- 5) Play assigned repertoire with fluency and careful observance of dynamics and articulation.
- 6) Sight read simple solo and ensemble repertoire.

7) Develop proper body mechanics and positioning at the keyboard to prevent injury.

We will be sequentially working through Units 1-9 in the textbook. Pacing will be determined by the needs of the class. Quiz dates will be announced in class.

Please keep in mind that questions and need for clarification will frequently arise in music learning. I urge all of you to feel free to speak to me before or after class, or send an email message, if you feel you may need assistance. I am always happy to collaborate with you to improve your experience!

* Final Exam TBA

HSU graduates will have demonstrated:

Effective communication through written and oral modes.

Critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues.

Competence in a major area of study.

Appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities, and viewpoints.

HSU graduates will be prepared to:

Succeed in their chosen careers.

Take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning.

Pursue social justice, promote environmental responsibility, and improve economic conditions in their workplaces and communities.

Academic honesty: Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding academic honesty. For more information, visit: [Academic Honesty Policy](#) or [HSU Catalog](#)

Students with Disabilities: Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations should contact the Student Disability Resource Center in House 71, 826-4678 (voice) or 826-5392 (TDD). Some accommodations may take up to several weeks to arrange. Student Disability Resource Center

Add/Drop policy: Students are responsible for knowing the University policy, procedures, and schedule for dropping or adding classes. [Schedule Adjustments \(Adding or Dropping\)](#)

Emergency evacuation: Please review the evacuation plan for the classroom (posted on the orange signs) , and review [Campus Emergency Preparedness](#)

http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/emergencyops/campus_emergency_preparedness.php for information on campus Emergency Procedures. During an emergency, information can be found campus conditions at: 826-INFO or Emergency Conditions

Attendance and disruptive behavior: Students are responsible for knowing policy regarding attendance and disruptive behavior: Class Attendance and Disruptive Behavior

AREA C – Arts and Humanities

Upon completing this requirement students will:

1. apply discipline-specific vocabulary and central discipline-specific concepts and principles to a specific instance, literary work or artistic creation.
2. respond subjectively as well as objectively to aesthetic experiences and will differentiate between emotional and intellectual responses.
3. explain the nature and scope of the perspectives and contributions found in a particular discipline within the Arts and Humanities as related to the human experience, both individually (theirs) and collectively.

Arts-specific SLO:

4. demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual, imaginative, and culturalelements involved in the creative arts through their (or, “as a result of their”)participation in and study of drama, music, studio art and/or creative writing.

Music Department Program Student Learning Outcomes

(SLOs 1 – 3 and all Music Ed-specific SLOs are NASM language)

Revised Fall 2018

Syllabus Acknowledgement Form

108K Beginning Piano

Instructor: Dr. Robin Miller

Spring 2018

I, _____, acknowledge that I have received a copy of the course syllabus for this class and the instructor has discussed the contents of the syllabus. I have read it and understand the course content, class procedures, and what is expected of me to earn credit with a specific grade in this class.