

Sam Houston State University – School of Music  
MUSI 1181 – Class Piano Level 1  
Fall 2017 – Course Syllabus Outline  
Credit: 1 hour

Instructor: Jose Ramon Garcia  
Office: TBA  
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Class Meetings: MW  
Location: Music Building 203  
Office Hours: TBA

**Textbooks and Required Supplies:**

1) Textbook: Hilley, Martha, and Lynn Freeman Olson. *Piano for the Developing Musician, PDM: 6*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2006. ISBN # 0534595456.

2) Headset

3) 1/4" to 1/8" Stereo Adaptor

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain these 3 items at the beginning of the semester and to bring them to each class. **The absence of any of these will result in a ZERO for the day.**

**Course Descriptions and Objectives:**

The four-semester sequence of Class Piano (MUSI 1181, 1182, 2181, 2182) presents basic keyboard skills and concepts to music majors designed to prepare students for the Piano Proficiency Examination which is administered during the enrollment of Class Piano Level 3 (MUSI 2181). The exam will include the following:

- All major/minor scales with chord progressions
- Sight-reading a 4-part hymn
- Clef reading
- Harmonization/Improvisation
- Ensemble (duets)
- Transposition
- Solo pieces from the textbook

**Prerequisites and Co-enrollment:**

At the beginning of the semester, instructors will check the status for each enrolled student. Any enrolled student, and any student not classified as a major by the School of Music will be immediately dropped from the course.

MUSI 1181: Passing grade on the Theory Placement Exam  
MUSI 1182: Grade of C or better in MUS 1181.  
MUSI 2181: Grade of C or better in MUS 1182.  
MUSI 2182: Grade of C or better in MUS 2181 and passing the Piano Proficiency Exam.

Students may be allowed to enroll in any level of Class Piano with the consent of the Coordinator of Class Piano. Consent will be granted based on the student's demonstration of skills and concepts equivalent to a grade of B on the final examination for the prerequisite course.

Students enrolled in                      should also be enrolled in:

MUSI 1181	MUS 1222 (Theory 1) & MUS 1224 (Musicianship 1)
MUSI 1182	MUS 1223 (Theory 2) & MUS 1225 (Musicianship 2)
MUSI 2118	MUS 2222 (Theory 3) & MUS 2224 (Musicianship 3)

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor if the student is not enrolled in the appropriate Theory and/or Musicianship course, as the skills and knowledge of the three courses are interrelated.

### **Assignments:**

Assignments will be given at each class meeting. Most assignments will involve a demonstration at the keyboard, and some of them will require elementary composition on a staff paper. The instructor will carefully explain what is expected each class. If a student is unclear about an assignment, it is the responsibility of the student **to seek clarification after class or by e-mail the same day.**

### **Practice Expectations:**

Pianos are located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the School of Music. It is expected that students practice a minimum of 30 minutes a day in preparation for class – not 3 1/2 hours in one day! If you are struggling or do not understand the assignments, you should schedule an appointment with the instructor for extra tutoring in advance. Office hours will be posted at Music Building 329.

### **Midterm & Final Examinations:**

There will be 2 exams – Midterm exam and Final exam. Both exams will be a performance of materials covered throughout the semester.

### **Important Dates**

- September 8<sup>th</sup> Friday – Last day to drop class
- October 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Midterm exam**
- November 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Last day of class
- December 4<sup>th</sup> Monday – Final exam**

**Make-up Work:**

Any assignment missed due to official university business, or a previously approved religious holiday absence, must be made up at the **next class meeting**. For all other unexcused absences, the student will receive a ZERO for the assignment. NO EXCUSES. If you are sick, you must e-mail me ahead of time, not 2 minutes before class or after the class is over! You are required to present appropriate doctor’s note, be responsible for missed assignments, and be prepared to make-up the work the following class. **Midterm and final exams may not be made up.**

**Grading Policies:**

Assignment grades are given EACH CLASS based on a 0-100 scale. There will be no extra credit given or re-grading of any assignments. In addition to the midterm and final exams, you will be given 2 quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 6 assignment grades.

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Class assignments through midterm	25%
Class assignments after midterm	25%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D (recommend retaking the course)
59-0	F (no credit given; must retake the course)

**Attendance:**

University policy requires that students be allowed three (3) unexcused absences without penalty. An unexcused absence is when the student does not notify the instructor in advance. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. After three unexcused absences, the student’s grade **will be lowered one FULL LETTER GRADE** for each additional absence.

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**Student Syllabus Guidelines**

A more detailed description of the following *Student Syllabus Guidelines* may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

**Academic Dishonesty**

Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days**

Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Students with Disabilities Policy**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain North Annex location. The SSD contact information (voice 936-294-3512; TDD 936-294-3786; e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu); web [www.shsu.edu/disability](http://www.shsu.edu/disability)).

**Visitors in the Classroom**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar’s Office.

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**Verification Statement**

To verify that you have read this course syllabus, your instructor will ask you to print this page to sign.

“By signing this document, I verify that I have read and understood the syllabus for this course.”

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Sign your name Date

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Print your name Instructor

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Course prefix, number, and section

## Tentative Class Schedule (Fall 2017)

8/23 Wed Introduction, attendance, syllabus, handouts, textbook (Pages 1-21) review

### Chapter 1: Intervals

8/28 Mon Page 1-21: Short Quiz  
Signed verification statement (Syllabus Page 4), textbook, headset, adaptor due

8/30 Wed Page 23: *One Four Seven*

9/4 Mon Labor Day – No Class

9/6 Wed Page 172: #1 C-major scale (2 octaves), #2  
Page 91: Chord progression – **written assignment due**

9/11 Mon Page 34: *My Dog Treed a Rabbit*  
Page 50-51: #2a, #2b, #2c, #2d, #2e – Harmonizations (Keyboard Theory)  
Page 172: C-major scale (4 octaves), chord progression

9/13 Wed Page 32: #1 – Musical Questions/Answers – Improvisations  
Page 41: *Saturday Smile*  
Page 172: G-major scale (4 octaves), chord progression

### Chapter 2: Pentascales

9/18 Mon Page 43: *Study in D*  
Page 172: D-major scale (4 octaves), chord progression

9/20 Wed Page 44-45: #1a, #1b, #3a, #3b (legato/staccato)  
Page 46: #2a, #2b, #3d, #3f, #3g (pentascale melodies)

9/25 Mon Page 30-31: #1a, #1b, #1c, #1d – harmonizations (Tonic/Dominant)  
Handout: C-major scale, a-minor harmonic scale (4 octaves), chord progressions

9/27 Wed **Quiz – *Study in D*, scales and chord progressions**  
Page 51-52: #2a, #2b, #2c – transpositions  
Handout: G-major scale, e-minor harmonic scale (4 octaves), chord progressions

10/2 Mon Page 56: *Etude*, Scale Sheet  
Handout: A-major scale (4 octaves), chord progression

10/4 Wed Page 54-55: *Tap It Out* (rhythm and dynamics)  
Page 58: *Echoing* and *Quiet Conversation*

10/9 Mon MIDTERM EXAM REVIEW

10/11 Wed **MIDTERM EXAM**

**Chapter 3: Root Position Triads**

- 10/16 Mon Page 60: *Scherzo*  
Page 68: Keyboard Theory (Roman numerals), **written assignment due**
- 10/18 Wed Page 61: #1a, #1b, #1c, #1d  
Page 62-63: #4, #5a, #5b  
Review A-major scale, a-minor harmonic scale (4-octaves), chord progressions
- 10/23 Mon Page 68: #3, #4, #5, #6  
Handout: E-major scale (4-octaves), chord progression
- 10/25 Wed Page 70-71: #3c (duet), #4a (solo)
- 10/30 Mon Page 72: #3a, #3b, #3c – transpositions  
Page 69: #2 (solo)  
Page 70: #3a (duet)
- 11/1 Wed Page 73: #1 – Musical Questions/Answers – Improvisations  
IDEA Course Survey
- 11/6 Mon Page 79: *Allegro in G*, Scale Sheet (G-major Review)

**Chapter 4: Extended Use of Intervals, Pentascales, and Triads/Dominant Seventh**

- 11/8 Wed **Quiz – Pages 69-70 (solo harmonizations)**  
Page 84: *Connections*
- 11/13 Mon Page 93: #5a, #5c (inversions), #1a (harmonization)
- 11/15 Wed Page 95: #2a (duet)  
Review D-major scale (4-octaves), chord progression
- 11/20 Mon Page 96: #3a, #3b – transpositions
- 11/22 Wed Thanksgiving Holidays – No Class
- 11/27 Mon Page 106: *Triadique*  
Final Exam Review
- 11/29 Wed FINAL EXAM REVIEW
- 12/4 Mon **FINAL EXAM**