



MERCER
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number MUS121	Course Title Piano I	Credits 1
Hours: Lecture/Lab/Other 2 lab	Co- or Pre-requisite	Implementation Semester & Year Spring 2022

Catalog description:

Fundamentals of piano playing, covers music reading, chords, various accompaniment styles, coordination of both hands, and sight-reading skills. Group instruction is given via an electro-piano lab. College pianos are available for practice. No prior piano instruction necessary.

General Education Category:
Not GenEd

Course coordinator:
Scott Hornick, 609-570-3716, hornicks@mccc.edu

Required texts & Other materials:

Heerema, Elmer. *Progressive Class Piano* (2nd Edition), Alfred Publishing, Inc., 1984.
ISBN: 9780882842974

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify the fundamentals of rhythm, music notation, and sight reading. [Supports ILGs #2,6,10,11; PLOs #1,2,3]
2. Demonstrate proper sitting and hand position at the piano. [Supports ILG #10; PLOs #1,7]
3. Explain and understand key signatures, scales, and chords. [Supports ILGs #2,6,10,11; PLOs #1,2,3,4,7]
4. Describe the skills of transposition and harmonization. [Supports ILGs #2,6,10,11; PLOs #1,2,3,5,7]
5. Demonstrate the ability to perform simple 2-part pieces with a basic understanding of tempo, dynamics, style and pedaling [Supports ILGs #6,10,11; PLOs #1,2,3,5,7]

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 2. Mathematics. Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy: Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for Music AS Program (PLO)

1. Demonstrate a professional level of fluency in both the reading and writing of musical notation.
2. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the theoretical principles that underlie all the primary genres of music of Western culture, including scale and chord construction; the tonal system of keys and chord relationships; harmonic analysis; figured bass; the principles and procedures of four-part writing; and modulation.
3. Analyze excerpts of musical compositions, working from a printed score, on the levels of harmony, rhythm, melodic contour, phrase structure, and large-scale formal structure.
4. Notate short melodic fragments of two to four measures in length upon hearing them performed.
5. Sing at sight melodies of intermediate difficulty in both major and minor keys.

7. Demonstrate a level of proficiency at the piano keyboard suitable for teaching, arranging, composing, and analyzing music.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I [Piano Basics] [Supports Course SLOs#1,2]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Demonstrate proper posture and technique when sitting at the piano.
- Distinguish between proper fingering patterns.
- Identify and perform intervals from written music.

Unit II [Musical Textures] [Supports Course SLOs #1,2,3]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Explain and perform different motion types such as contrary and parallel.
- Differentiate and perform imitation and blocked intervals.
- Explain musical terms and demonstrate their use at the keyboard.

Unit III [Scales and Chords] [Supports Course SLOs #1,2,3,4]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Produce major scales in the keys of D, A, and E.
- Use basic harmonizing skills to improvise utilizing scale motifs.
- Apply various rhythmic patterns to melodies and improvisations.

Unit IV [Repertoire] [Supports Course SLOs #1,2,3,4,5]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Organize and perform a repertoire of solo pieces for the piano.

- Use techniques learned to perform in duet settings with other pianists and instrumentalists.

Evaluation of student learning: [Evaluates SLOs #1,2,3,4,5]

Evaluation Tools	% of Grade
Assignments	20%
Quizzes	15%
Song Performances	15%
Mid-Term	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%