



**Arts and Communication Division**

**Course Outline**

MUS 121  
Course Number

Piano Class I  
Course Title

1  
Credits

0  
Lecture

2  
Laboratory Hours

15 weeks  
Length of semester

**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.

Text: **Progressive Class Piano**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition – E. Heerema

Prerequisite: None

Corequisites: None

**Coordinator: James Kelly**  
**Ext. 3716**

**Latest Review: Spring 2005**

**A. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Provide keyboard instruction to students with no musical background
2. Introduce the fundamentals of rhythm, music notation, and sight reading
3. Develop proper sitting and hand position at the piano.
4. Teach key signatures, scales, and chords.
5. Introduce the skills of transposition and harmonization.
6. Develop the ability to perform simple 2-part pieces with a basic understanding of tempo, dynamics, style and pedaling.

**B. COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR TESTING AND EVALUATION**

1. Regular attendance.
2. Consistent practice and preparation of daily assignments
3. Two tests and quizzes.
4. Positive attitude and effort.

**C. ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance is taken at each class. Two unexcused absences are allowed. Additional unexcused absences will lower your grade by one letter. Absences due to sickness or emergency may be excused by contacting me via email at [youmustpractice@aol.com](mailto:youmustpractice@aol.com), or by leaving a note in my mailbox in the Music Office, CM156. You are responsible for finding out the day's assignment. **If you do not show up for a test, you will fail that test.**

**D. OFFICE HOURS**

Please take advantage of this time if you are experiencing difficulty with the material. If you have specific questions or concerns with the class, I will be happy to address them.

**E. TOPICAL OUTLINE**

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>MATERIAL COVERED</u>
1-2	Learning the keyboard, finger numbers, rhythms, intervals, major patterns, transpositions. <i>pp. 4-21, p. 53, handouts</i>
3-4	Playing in parallel and contrary motion, imitation and blocked intervals. <i>pp. 22-28, p. 51</i>
5	Combining all musical textures <i>pp. 28-31, 52</i>
6	Duet playing <i>pp. 32-35, handouts</i>
7	Scales, repertoire <i>pp. 36-37</i>
8	Harmonizing and improvising <i>pp. 41-50</i>
9	Review for <b>MIDTERM</b> test
10	Key of D, A and E major; eighth notes. <i>pp. 95, 98</i>
11	Pedal, accent, staccato, 8 <sup>va</sup> and tied notes. <i>pp. 61-62, handouts</i>
12	New hand position, legato 3rds, Alberti bass <i>pp. 64-65, 67, 96</i>
13	Repertoire <i>p. 66</i> Dotted quarter notes, eighth rests <i>pp. 68, 70, 98</i>
14	Duet playing <i>p. 72-75</i>
15	Review for final, repertoire <i>pp. 78-79</i>