

MUSI-135: CLASS PIANO I

Effective Term

Fall 2026

CC Approval

12/05/2025

AS Approval

12/11/2025

BOT Approval

12/18/2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements
Send Workflow to Initiator

No

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Music (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

MUSI - Music

Course Number

135

Department

Music

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Class Piano I

Short Title

Class Piano I

CB03 TOP Code

1004.00 - Music

CIP Code

50.0901

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

updating course listing.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course is designed to teach basic piano skills to the student with no piano experience. It includes the fundamentals of music reading/notation, keyboard knowledge, piano techniques and musicianship, using a variety of styles and repertoire. Designed for music majors requiring piano proficiency while also providing non-majors an opportunity to study piano.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

2.00

Lecture Hours

36.00

Outside of Class Hours

72

Total Contact Hours

36

Total Student Hours

108

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

No

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Perform scales, primary chords and harmonized melodies.
2. Evaluate and critique student music performance and receive personal performance criticism from others.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify all keys on a piano keyboard.
2. Identify all notes of the grand staff and know their locations on the keyboard.
3. Perform major scales: C, G, F, D, A, E and B, both hands, one octave, ascending and descending.
4. Perform natural and harmonic minor scales: a, e, d, both hands, one octave, ascending and descending.

5. Perform the primary chord progressions (I - IV - V7) in major keys (C, G, F, D, A, E and B).
6. Harmonize and play a diatonic melody using primary chords.
7. Transpose simple melodies and chords into closely related keys.
8. Sight read simple piano pieces using treble and bass clefs.
9. Play basic piano repertoire using both hands, executing with accuracy of pitch and rhythm in steady tempo.

Course Content

1. Technical Skill
 - a. Posture
 - b. Hand position
 - i. Wrist
 - ii. Arm and forearm
 - iii. Finger
 - iv. Two-hand coordination
 - c. Fingering
 - i. Left hand
 - ii. Right hand
 - d. Pedaling
 - i. Damper
 - ii. Una corda
 - e. Articulation
 - i. Legato
 - ii. Staccato
2. Notation
 - a. Notes
 - i. Letter names
 - ii. Rhythmic note values
 - iii. Rests
 - iv. Piano keyboard layout
 - b. Clefs and Staff
 - i. Grand staff
 - ii. Treble/G
 - iii. Bass/F
 - c. Signatures
 - i. Key
 - ii. Time
 1. Beat/pulse
 2. Simple
 3. Tempo
3. Musical Concepts
 - a. Harmony
 - i. Primary chords
 1. Block
 2. Broken
 3. I-IV-V (V7) chord progressions
 4. Harmonize melody
 - b. Scales
 - i. Major
 1. C
 2. G
 3. F
 4. D
 5. A
 6. E
 7. B
 - ii. Minor
 1. a
 2. e

- 3. d
- 4. Natural/harmonic
- c. Transposition
 - i. Closely related keys
 - ii. Melody
 - iii. Harmony
- d. Sight Reading
 - i. Notation
 - 1. Pitch
 - 2. Rhythm
- 4. Repertoire
 - a. Harmonized melodies
 - b. Basic simple songs
 - c. Played with both hands, steady tempo
- 5. Practice
 - a. Suggested two hour per week minimum
 - b. Log time and content

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	Piano keyboard facility.
Critique	Individual and group; written and oral.
Lecture	Musical concepts and technique.
Observation and Demonstration	CD examples and instructor demonstration.
Other	Collaborative learning: performing repertoire in small and large group settings.

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Written notation and piano keyboard performance. Final Exam - Written notation
Class Participation	Keyboard and music theory: individual/group critique.
Homework	Written and piano practice assignments.
Performances	Class Performance - Individual/group keyboard performance. Final Class Performance - Keyboard, harmonic, repertoire proficiency.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Read text and notational assignments throughout semester, for example:

1. Read Chapter One, "Introduction to Playing," in Adult All-in-One Course, and be prepared to show body and hand position for proper piano playing in next class period.
2. Read notation in Chapter Three in Adult All-in-One Course and be prepared to play for class.

Writing Assignments

Write an evaluation of a musical performance, discussing the basic elements of music (pitch, rhythm, harmony) and performance technique used in the concert or recital.

Outside-of-Class Assignments

1. Perform major chords using both hands in blocked and broken patterns.
2. Perform simple melody using block chordal accompaniment.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Elyse March

Title

Contemporary Class Piano

Edition/Version

9th Edition

Publisher

Oxford University Press

Year

2022

Rationale

updated version of text that includes contemporary music

ISBN #

9780190078294

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity**How does your course and/or course outline of record reflect strategies for accommodating and engaging diverse student populations, advancing equitable outcomes, and fostering inclusion for all students?**

This course accommodates diverse student populations through multiple learning modalities (visual, auditory, kinesthetic), flexible pacing, and varied assessment methods. It advances equitable outcomes by incorporating repertoire from multiple cultures and genres, allowing student choice in music selection, and welcoming learners at all skill levels. The course fosters inclusion through collaborative learning, ensemble playing, growth mindset emphasis, and principles that ensure all students can access and engage with content regardless of their background, learning style, or prior experience.

Course Codes (Admin Only)**CB00 State ID**

CCC000152201

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No