

**MUSA 2272 Piano Class IV**  
**Course Syllabus, Spring 2009 (subject to changes)**  
**Dr. Oscar Macchioni - University of Texas at El Paso - Music Department**  
**Course website: <http://utminers.utep.edu/omacchioni>**  
Fox Fine Arts Center Room 443 (DKL)  
Section 01 23107 TR 7:30-8:50  
Section 03 23853 MWF 10:30-11:20

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**Office hours:** TBA Room 443 - Tel: 747 7817

**Email:** [omacchioni@utep.edu](mailto:omacchioni@utep.edu)

**Textbook:** *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 2* by E. L. Lancaster and Kenon D. Renfrow. Second Edition only.

**Other materials:** manuscript paper, Floppy disc.

### **Course Description**

The course focus on the development and improvement of keyboard skills such as repertoire, technique, music reading, improvisation, harmonization, score reading, transposition, and the use of technology. The course is intended to reinforce students' understanding of both written and aural skills theoretical concepts.

The class is divided in two components: Skill Checks and Tests, they are both part of your "Proficiency Exam." Each Skill Checks are designed to check your proficiency in a specific area such as transposition, score reading, accompaniment, harmonization, solo repertoire, etc. Each test is designed to cover more than one area and to expand the skill checks' scope.

All these areas are covers with a great variety of musical selections of all styles including solo and ensemble pieces. *This course is not available for Graduate level credit.*

**Prerequisite:** MUSA 2271.

### **Course Goals / Objectives**

To provide the students the basic knowledge of keyboard skills, applied harmony and improvisation to the keyboard, and the use of technology. These skills are essentials for the development of the student as musicians and educators.

### **Course Content / Outcome**

The student will be able to:

- achieve technical skills: movement over the entire keyboard, sound production, syncopated pedaling, arpeggios, double notes, contracting articulations.
- Play all major and harmonic minor scales. Two octaves, hands together
- Play chords: triads and inversions in all major and minor keys, seventh chords and inversions.
- Play four-part ensembles, band and choral reading including transposing instruments.
- Create and play two-hand accompaniment.
- Harmonize melodies using the harmonic structures studied in these chapters, with and without chord symbols provided (Roman numerals and letter symbols).
- Improvise simple melodies on a given harmonic progression and scale (major, minor, pentatonic, whole-tone, blues, chromatic, modes); and improvise different styles of accompaniments (block chords, arpeggios, Alberti bass, waltz, etc) on the harmonic structures studied in the course
- Perform solo and ensemble repertoire from a variety of styles and periods.
- Sight read.
- Transpose.
- Perform multi-track recording and sequencing.

## Attendance

- Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. .
- Absences: you are allowed to have 3 unexcused absences during the semester (TR section only 2). Your grade will be dropped 3% points for every unexcused absence beyond the 3 allowed.
- Each tardy will be considered 1/2 absence
- Excused absences should be, if possible at all, notified to the instructor in advance, and followed by a note from the Music Department's Chair, Dean of the college, or doctor.
- Attendance is required for all examinations and Skill Checks. No make-ups will be given unless the instructor is notified in advance or provided with a note from the Music Department's Chair, Dean of the college, or doctor. **Attendance to Final Examination is mandatory.** An absence in final examination will result in failing the class.

## Examinations and grading

Your grade will be based on your class participation and attendance, assignments, skill checks, and examinations calculated as follow:

Skill Checks 50%

Tests and Final 50%

Grade scale:

A = 100-90

B = 89-80

C = 78-70

D = 69-60

F = 59-0

## Practice expectations

- A minimum of 45 minutes a day is suggested. There will be some office hours scheduled in the piano lab so you can practice there.

## Others:

- **No** food in the classroom.
- **No** cell phones, pagers, palmtops, wireless electronic devices allowed in class. You should turn off all devices before entering the classroom.
- **No** bag packs between the rows, leave them on the side of the room.
- **Please** treat instruments and headphones with care. It is for you benefit that they are in good shape and work properly. **You are going to be liable for any damage to the headsets we provide you.**

You must read this syllabus and send me an email to: [omacchioni@utep.edu](mailto:omacchioni@utep.edu) **no later than January 23. Please use your UTEP email account.**

In the subject of the email write: course number, days class meets and your complete name.

For example: **"2272 MWF Oscar Macchioni"**. **This is your first Skill Check and you will receive a grade.**

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to

<http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm>

for further information.

**Disabilities:** I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached in the following ways:

Web: <http://www.utep.edu/dsso>

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY- Fax: (915) 747-8712 - E-Mail: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu)

### Course outline

WEEK	CONTENT	TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Week 1:</b> January 19	Review / Unit 14	<b>Skill Check 1</b> send email by Friday 23 <a href="mailto:omacchioni@utep.edu">omacchioni@utep.edu</a>
<b>Week 2:</b> January 26 <i>Monday 19, MLK Day, no class</i>	Unit 15	
<b>Week 3:</b> February 2	Unit 16	<b>Skill Check 2</b>
<b>Week 4:</b> February 9	Unit 17	
<b>Week 5:</b> February 16	<b>Review</b>	<b>TEST 1</b>
<b>Week 6:</b> February 23	Unit 18	
<b>Week 7:</b> March 2	Unit 19	<b>Skill Check 3</b>
<b>Week 8:</b> March 9 <i>Midterm</i>	Unit 20	<b>Skill Check 4</b>
<b>Week 9:</b> March 16 <i>No Class Spring Break</i>		
<b>Week 10:</b> March 23	Unit 21	
<b>Week 11:</b> March 30 <i>April 3<sup>rd</sup> Course Drop deadline</i>	<b>Review</b>	<b>TEST 2</b>
<b>Week 12:</b> April 6 <i>Friday 10, Good Friday No class</i>	Unit 22	<b>Skill Check 5</b>
<b>Week 13:</b> April 13	Unit 23	
<b>Week 14:</b> April 20	Unit 24	<b>Skill Check 6</b>
<b>Week 15:</b> April 27	Unit 25	
<b>Week 16:</b> May 4	<b>Review</b>	
<b>Week 17:</b> May 11-15 <b>FINALS</b>		