

MUSA 2272 Piano Class IV
Course Syllabus, Spring 2012 (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)

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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 the "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, contrasting articulations.
- Play all major and harmonic minor scales. Two octaves, hands together in ♩ , Minimum $\text{♩} = 50$
- 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

I do not give make-up assignments and I do not curve the grades. You get what you work for.

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.**

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

Course outline

WEEK	CONTENT	TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1: January 17 <i>Monday 16, MLK Day, no class</i>	Review / Unit 14	
Week 2: January 23	Unit 15	Skill Check 1
Week 3: January 30	Unit 16	Skill Check 2
Week 4: February 6	Unit 17	
Week 5: February 13	Review	TEST 1
Week 6: February 20	Unit 18	Skill Check 3
Week 7: February 27	Unit 19	
Week 8: March 5 <i>Midterm</i>	Unit 20	Skill Check 4
Week 9: March 12 <i>No Class Spring Break</i>		
Week 10: March 19	Unit 21	Skill Check 5
Week 11: March 26 <i>April 1st Course Drop deadline</i> Dr M out of town	Unit 22	
Week 12: April 2	Review	TEST 2
Week 13: April 9	Unit 23	
Week 14: April 16	Unit 24	Skill Check 6
Week 15: April 23	Unit 25	Skill Check 7
Week 16: May 1	Review	
Week 17: May 7-11 FINALS		