

Dr. Oscar Macchioni
University of Texas at El Paso
Music Department

Piano Individual Studies MUSA 1290, 1295, 3295, 3391,
Applied Lessons for Performance Majors MUSA 5391

Syllabus: Spring 2009
(subject to changes)

Office: Room 438 FFA Music. Tel 747 7817

Class meeting: Weekly, 50 minutes, Individual lessons TBA

Studio Class: Fridays 2:30-3:20. Attendance Required

Email: omacchioni@utep.edu

UTEP webpage <http://utminers.utep.edu/omacchioni>

Personal webpage www.oscarmacchioni.net

Dear students:

Welcome to my studio. My goal as your piano Professor is to free your potentials as musicians, and to serve as your mentor. It is very important that you achieve the highest level of performance, but that you also function fully as a person within a society and interacts with other people. I'll encourage you to be part of your culture and society, attend concerts, art expositions, movies, read, listen, watch, breath, exercise...live! Remember: playing the piano 24 hours per day WILL NOT makes you a good musician. In order to be a musician, you must be disciplined but also, curious. You must have passion, drive, fire, and a love for life, the arts and humanity. Having said that, I require that you practice a minimum of four hours, daily.

Course description: Study and performance of solo, duets, and concerto repertoire. Study of technical exercises, scales, and etudes.

Materials:

- Metronome
- Scores, NOT photocopies unless out-of-print or they are manuscripts.
- Sources to buy scores: www.hutchingsandrea.com or www.jwpepper.com
- Technical exercises for Fall 2008/Spring 2009: Aloys Schmitt's *Preparatory Exercises op. 16*. Available at the Book Store.
- A Notebook/Journal

Course goals:

- To achieve the highest level of performance based on the student's abilities and work.
- To create work and practice habits necessary to improve the student's abilities and to complete the assigned repertoire.
- To perform publicly in different settings to gain performing experience.
- To learn and expand the keyboard repertoire based on the student's experience, background, and personal abilities.
- To incorporate all elements of music (theory, history, performance practice, and analysis) within the study of repertoire and sight-reading.

- To acquire knowledge of composers' lives and works, and to present the findings in written and oral form to his/her peers.
- To exercise critical thinking and acceptance of constructive criticism from the teacher and peers during lessons and in master class settings.

Course objectives / outcomes:

Lower Level 1391

- To master all major and minor scales hands together 4 octaves in ♩ , Minimum $\text{♩} = 60$.
- To improve technical and musical skills.
- To acquire basic piano repertoire from different periods: Baroque to 21th century.
- Sight-reading

Upper Level 3391 and Graduate Level

- All major and minor scales and arpeggios in contrary motion, at all intervals, in canon, bi-tonal, with different articulations and polyrhythmic in ♩ , Minimum $\text{♩} = 100$. (Handout)
- To master technical and musical skills, and to be able to approach standard repertoire including concertos.
- To further develop piano repertoire from different periods: Baroque to 21st Century.
- Sight-reading

ATTENDANCE:

- You are required to be present at ALL weekly lessons, master classes, departmental recitals, guest artists, and keyboard faculty recitals.
- You are allowed only one absence without justification. Subsequently, each absence will lower your grade 3.3%.
- If you are not in my office within 5 minutes of your lesson time, it will be considered a 1/2 absence.
- Your lesson starts at the assigned time. PLEASE, be at my studio door at least 5 minutes early. Schedule your activities so that you can warm up at least 30 minutes before your lesson.
- **Attendance at Final Jury is mandatory.** Absence for the final examination will result in failing the class.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Throughout the semester I require that you read certain materials that I will be putting on reserve in the main library or music library. Readings may include chapters from a book, articles from magazines, journals or newspapers. All reading materials will be presented and discussed during master classes and you will be graded by participation and readiness (¿preparedness) to discuss the assigned materials.

MIDTERM:

To ensure your constant and smooth work during the semester, a Midterm will be given. To pass the Midterm you will be asked to play at least two pieces by memory.

PERFORMANCES:

During the semester, you are required to play at least seven times in studio class and at least five times in keyboard/departmental area.

PIANO LITERATURE AND PEDAGOGY:

I'll encourage you to take these classes when offered.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE:

During the semester, you are required to attend five concerts in which the piano is the main media (solo piano, chamber music with piano, piano concertos) and bring proof of your attendance such as the ticket AND program.

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

Your grade will be based on your attendance, required readings, midterm, concert attendance, performances, and jury. The calculation is as follows:

Points:

100 - 90 %=A ; 89.9 - 80 %=B; 79.9 - 70 %=C; 69.9 - 60 %=D (if you get a D in my class, I'll ask you to leave my studio); 59.9 - 50%= F (do I need to explain this one?)

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

Weekly lessons	10 points each
Weekly playing assignments	10 points each
Required Readings	10 points each
Concert Programs	10 points each
Midterm	100 points
Performances	50 points each
Jury	100 points (average from all jury's sheets)

Your weekly grading will look something like this:

	Attendance	Technique	Sight-reading	Repertoire 1	(Repertoire 2)	(Repertoire 3)	FINAL GRADE
		20%	20%	60% (30) (20)	- (30) (20)	- (20)	
Grade							/10

NOTE: please read this syllabus and send me an email of agreement not later than January 28th. For the subject, write: Piano Individual and your name; example: "Piano Individual Oscar Macchioni" [EMAIL](#)

OTHERS:

1) Returning students: to ensure a successful and smooth semester, you will be playing the previously assigned material/s during your first lessons of the semester. You will have to demonstrate that you have incorporated many of the musical and technique aspects we have worked on in class.

2) You will be graded in each class: I'll assign you a number from 0-10 (see "Points" above). After every class, you will be receiving an email with comments and your grade. For the final grade, I will add up all the points and average them (see above "Grading").

3) Every three weeks, I will be assigning you a very short piece or etude which you will practicing on your own (no help from me or anybody else). You will be performing the assigned piece BY MEMORY in Studio Class in front of your colleagues. The grade on this performance will be equal to one of your private lessons (10).

- 4) Sight-reading: The SR book is Czerny op. 299 (available at the Book Store). You will be reading one etude per day to complete six etudes per week. At your lesson time, I will be asking you to play one of them: slowly, non-stop. You will be graded.
- 5) Studio Class on Friday is mandatory. I will be out of town some weeks, which I will be announcing in a timely manner.
- 6) You MUST have my approval to play in concerts, master classes, summer festivals, competitions, etc.

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, as per UTEP catalog policy. For further information, refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm>. This includes audio/video files. You cannot send somebody else's recording as your own.

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 the first two weeks of the semester or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you may 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 class. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached: Web: <http://www.utep.edu/dsso> Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY- Fax: (915) 747-8712 - E-Mail: dss@utep.edu

SUGGESTED WEBPAGES and READINGS

www.medicivt.com

www.philharmonia.co.uk

<http://pianoeducation.org>

www.carnegiehall.org