Piano Lab: CA 227
Instructor: Brad Kisner
Phone: 884-0391, ext. 305; Office: CA 108 – very limited hours
Email: bkisner@ccfumc.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Musi 1302 is designed to introduce students to the basic elements of music & piano playing including notation, hand position, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, phrasing, scale & key relationships with the goal of playing the piano independently. Class activities will include both group and individual work.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
At successful completion of the course the student will:
- Be able to read notes and other musical symbols.
- Play advanced rhythms and time signatures
- Play assigned songs with correct rhythm & notes using both hands.
- Have command of major and minor key signatures & scales
- Be able to recognize intervals, name their size and note names

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: (must be brought to class EACH time – no extras available)
- Adult Piano Adventures (A Comprehensive Piano Course- Revised Edition) No. 2 by Nancy & Randall Faber – it is strongly recommended that students purchase a NEW book. Used texts may be the wrong edition.
- Notebook for class notes.
- Pencil.
- You may also wish to bring your own headphones & adapter

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is required for success. Attendance and being in class on time will enhance or reduce the final grade (see grading). Only the following circumstances qualify as an unexcused absence: student’s illness with doctor’s note, death in immediate family, a TAMU-CC school sponsored event with documentation from instructor. A student with 5 absences will have the final grade lowered by one letter. 6 or more absences will result in a failing grade.

For each prompt attendance (arriving on time) the student will receive 3.3 points toward the final grade. For each tardy (not exceeding 15 minutes) the student will receive 3 points toward this point total. No points will be given for absentees or arrivals later than 15 minutes.

GRADING: This is a participation class. You will be graded on preparation, performance and attendance. Assessment of piano skills will occur frequently by the instructor, with appropriate feedback. Assessment is based on: Accuracy (notes, rhythms, dynamics); Technique (posture, fingering, pedaling); Musicality (style, phrasing and overall performance). Each student is assessed on his/her own skill level and is not judged against others in the class. Any missed assessment are to be completed within one week of the assigned day. A minimum of 5 points will be deducted for late assessments.

Points toward the final course grade can be achieved according to the following list of class activities:
- Attendance – 3 – 3.5 points per session (see Attendance) 100 points
- Playing assessments and/or written quizzes (6 times at 50 points each) 300 points
- Final Exam 100 points

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE 500 points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINAL COURSE GRADE</th>
<th>POINT RANGE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>450-500</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>400-449</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>350-399</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>300-349</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-299</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
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PREPARATION FOR CLASS: The development of individual music skills requires discipline and regular individual practice. Journals should be kept. Practice pianos are available on the first floor of the Center for the Arts. Students are expected to practice at least 4 hours weekly and document practice time in your notebook.

CLASS FORMAT: Instruction, individual practice, ensemble playing and individual playing. Throughout the semester an informal and supportive atmosphere will offer the opportunity to place emphasis on personal achievement rather than competition. Individual practice outside of class is required. Playing assessments may be done live or recorded on individual keyboards in the lab as determined by the instructor. The final playing assessment will be played live.

CLASS OUTLINE:
Playing assessments/quizzes must be done on the assigned days to receive full credit.

August
25 Orientation
30 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

September
1 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
6 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
8 **Assessment 1**
13 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
15 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
20 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
22 **Assessment 2**
27 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
29 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

October
4 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
6 **Assessment 3**
11 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
13 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
18 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
20 **Assessment 4**
25 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
27 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

November
1 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
3 **Assessment 5**
8 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
10 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
15 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
17 **Assessment 6**
22 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation/Review
24 No Class - Thanksgiving
29 Practice & Individual consultation/Review

December
1 Recital Day (play any piece you’ve learned all semester)
6 Last class/Final Exam
*NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:* Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

***GRADE APPEAL PROCESS.*** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University RulesWeb site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.