MUSI 1302, 001 & 002
Class Piano I & II for Non Majors – Spring 2016
Tue/Thur 12:30-1:45; 2:00-3:15

Piano Lab: CA 227
Instructor: Brad Kisner
Phone: 884-0391, ext. 305; Office: CA 108 – (generally 12:00-12:30 pm on Tuesday & Thursday)
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 on musical grand staff and locate notes on the piano keyboard
- Know basic rhythms of notes
- Play assigned songs with correct rhythm & notes using both hands.
- Master correct piano technique & hand positions (students must trim fingernails to reasonable lengths to achieve correct hand position)

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: (must be brought to class EACH time – no extras available)
- Adult Piano Adventures (A Comprehensive Piano Course- Revised Edition) No. 1 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.

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 4 points toward the final grade. No points will be given for absentees or arrivals later than 15 minutes. No credit given for attendance if student leaves before class dismissed.

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 assessments must be completed before the next assessment is given. 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 – 4 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
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<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>400-449</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
</tr>
<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. Missed assessment must be made up before the next assessment is given.

January

- 21 Orientation
- 26 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 28 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

February

- 2 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 4 **Assessment 1**
- 9 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 11 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 16 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 18 **Assessment 2**
- 23 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 25 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

March

- 1 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 3 **Assessment 3**
- 8 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 10 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 14-18 Spring Break
- 22 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 24 **Assessment 4**
- 29 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 31 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation

April

- 5 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 7 **Assessment 5**
- 12 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 14 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 19 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation
- 21 **Assessment 6**
- 26 Presentation, Practice & Individual consultation/Review
- 28 Recital Day

May

- 3 Last Day of Class
- Final Exam to follow University Schedule
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating. In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

DROPPING A CLASS: It is our hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Check the online Academic Calendar for the last day of the current semester to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, is an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article II of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. The prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Cell phones for personal calls/texts are not allowed during class time. Students abusing this will be asked to leave the class for the day and not receive credit for attendance.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christ Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC CONTINUITY: In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the uses of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e. emails, web sites and Blackboard) will be operation within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.