

Syllabus for
PRFM 100 - Piano Proficiency
Pass/Fail
Spring 2024

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

All music majors must enroll in class piano every semester until all parts of the proficiency are passed and recorded in the Music Office. The Keyboard Coordinator will evaluate each freshman music major to determine the student's keyboard aptitude and appropriate enrollment within the four levels of piano classes. Music majors must complete the Piano Proficiency before their junior year; transfer music majors are permitted an extension until the beginning of their second semester of the junior year.

Worship Arts majors will be evaluated by the Keyboard Coordinator for appropriate placement in piano courses according to their piano entrance audition.

Prerequisite for the Piano Proficiency: Class Piano I, II, III.

Permission from the Keyboard Coordinator

Co-requisite: Class Piano III or the equivalent thereof in MUS-001 or -026

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is designed to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Understand and develop proper technique--good posture, appropriate hand and arm position, resonant tone, clean syncopated pedaling.
- B. Develop an understanding of and play various styles of solo classical piano repertoire and accompaniments.
- C. Play harmonizations, transpositions, sight reading, improvisation and score reading at appropriate tempi.

III. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

- A. To provide opportunities for students to develop their music capabilities and interests through the use of music as a socializing force, as an aid to compassionate understanding of themselves and their environment and as an avenue of self-expression.
- B. To stimulate an appreciation and love for music through the study of its various disciplines.
- C. To develop techniques for mature evaluation of musical standards.
- D. To give an adequate background for further study in graduate school and cultivate tools for teaching in public and private schools, teaching in private studios, performing in professional organizations and working in related musical fields
- E. Prepare for various ministries and worship.

IV. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

This course aligns with the following University Outcomes as indicated on the last page

- A. Spiritual Integrity
- B. Personal Reliance
- C. Intellectual Pursuit
- D. Global Engagement
- E. Bold Vision

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of completing this course successfully, the student will be able to:

- A. Play scales and arpeggios, ascending and descending, two octaves.
- B. Play chord progressions with three notes in the right hand (SAT) and the bass note in the left hand.
- C. Play choral warm-ups in any major or minor key.
- D. Perform piano solos and sight read, improvise and transpose with functional piano skills.

VI. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

- A. Required Materials
 - 1. Textbooks
The Piano Proficiency Exam Packet (one set provided by the keyboard coordinator)
 - 2. Other
As required by piano instructor
 - Piano Literature
 - Accompaniments
 - Lead sheets
 - Technique exercises
 - Hymns
- B. Optional Materials
 - 1. Textbooks
Alfred's Group Piano Book Two
 - 2. Other
Choral and orchestral scores

VII. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A. Department Policies and Procedures - See Music Student Handbook.
- B. Course Policies and Procedures
 - 1. Evaluation Procedures
 - a. SCALES
 - Keyboard majors, i.e., all music majors whose primary instrument is piano or organ:
Play all Major scales and all harmonic and melodic minor scales, four octaves, hands together in sixteenth notes, MM quarter note = 120 minimum.
 - Non-keyboard majors:
Play all Major scales and white tonic harmonic minor scales, two octaves, hands together in sixteenth notes, MM quarter note = 44 minimum.
 - b. ARPEGGIOS
 - Keyboard majors
Play all Major, minor, dominant 7th and diminished 7th arpeggios four octaves, hands together, in sixteenth notes, MM quarter note = 120 minimum.
 - Non-keyboard majors:
Play all Major and minor arpeggios two octaves, hands together; all diminished 7th and dominant 7th arpeggios two octaves, hands separately; in eighth notes, MM quarter note = 60 minimum.

- c. CHORD PROGRESSIONS
- Play modulations from any key to another key of the instructor's choice.
 - Play the progression I - IV - I 6/4 - V7 - I in every Major key.
 - Play the progression i - iv - i 6/4 - V7 - i in every minor key.
 - Voice the chord with three notes in the right hand (SAT) and the Bass note in the left hand; the root of I (or i) is placed in the soprano and bass.
 - Keyboard majors play in quarter notes, MM = 120.
 - Non-keyboard majors play in quarter notes, MM = 52.
- d. IMPROVISATION
- By Ear: Play the melody with improvised accompaniment for "Happy Birthday" and a worship chorus or community song selected from your prepared list.
- From a Lead Sheet: Play a worship chorus, community song or jazz solo with appropriate stylistic accompaniment realizations selected from your prepared list.
- e. PATRIOTIC SONGS
- Keyboard majors, i.e., all music majors whose primary instrument is piano or organ, and all BMUE (MUEI and MUEV) majors will perform by memory the three patriotic songs using 4-voiced harmony at a singable tempo: "America" in F major; "America the Beautiful" in B-flat major; "Star-Spangled Banner" in A-flat major.
 - Non-keyboard majors pursuing the BA, BMUCM, BMUCT, BMULW degrees will perform by memory only two patriotic songs in 4-voiced harmony at a singable tempo: "America" in F major; "Star-Spangled Banner" in A-flat major.
 - Worship Arts majors will play all three patriotic songs at singable tempi with the musical score.
- f. PIANO REPERTOIRE - SOLOS AND ACCOMPANIMENTS
- Keyboard majors' semester performance exams will be evaluated for their proficiency solo and accompaniment requirements.
 - Non-keyboard majors will perform one of two prepared solos and one of two prepared accompaniments selected by the piano instructor.
 - Sight read a simple to moderately difficult piano solo or accompaniment.
- g. SCORE READING
- Sight read and transpose, up or down a half or whole step, two non-adjacent voices of a hymn, i.e., Soprano/Bass; Soprano/Tenor; Alto/Bass.
 - Note: Keyboard majors will sight read and transpose all four voices SATB.
 - Sight read two vocal parts of a 4-voiced open choral score, or play at concert pitch two instrumental parts of an orchestral/band/chamber music score.
 - Sight read one instrumental part from an orchestral or band composition of the standard classical repertoire and transpose it up or down a half or whole step or a major third.

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
There are no WPA requirements for this course.
3. Other Policies and/or Procedures

No fee is required unless the student must retake the examination, in which case a late exam fee will be charged.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

N/A

Program Outcome Alignment: MUSIC UNIT/MUSIC ARTS

This program contributes to the University outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

Program Outcome alignment with University Outcomes		Significant	Moderate	Minimal	None
Spiritual Integrity					
Outcome 1	Students will apply a Biblical and Christian Worldview when creating, performing, teaching, worshiping, and analyzing a variety of styles of music.			X	

Personal Resilience					
Outcome 2	Students will demonstrate active engagement and self-motivation in the preparation for recitals, classroom teaching, worship sets, research, audio projects, and presentations in music.			X	

Intellectual Pursuit					
Outcome 3 NASM 8.B.2.a-b	Students will develop the technical performance skills for artistic expression in at least one major performance area at a level appropriate for the major or concentration.		x		
Outcome 4 NASM 8.B.1.c	Students will develop ability to read at sight with fluency in their major performance area relevant to professional standards for the particular music concentration.		x		
Outcome 5 NASM 8.B.2.a	Students will develop aural skills to identify intervals, melodic structures, chord qualities, and harmonic progressions.		x		
Outcome 6 NASM 8.B.2.a	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the theory, harmonic progressions, and forms of a variety of styles of music when studying, listening, performing, and teaching music.		x		
Outcome 7 NASM 8.B.4	Students will acquire and develop the basic knowledge of music history and repertoire through the present time for a variety Western music cultures and styles.		x		

Global Engagement					
Outcome 8	Students will engage and analyze music from a wide variety of musical periods including Western and non-Western musical traditions (and worship).			X	

Bold Vision					
Outcome 9 NASM 8.B.1.f	Students will demonstrate vision, leadership, and artistry in performance through expression in phrasing, dynamics, articulations, and accepted practice for musical works in a variety of settings including the stage, classroom, therapeutic settings, and worship services.			X	