

Midland College
Syllabus
MUSI 1181
Piano Class I
Semester and Year
SCH (2-1)
Instructor Name

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Beginning class instruction in the fundamentals of keyboard technique.

All private instruction meets on an arranged schedule basis

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Produce five finger patterns in major and minor keys.
- Play major and minor scales in selected keys.
- Construct and play chords of different qualities.
- Harmonize a melody.
- Perform selected compositions.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS (Text may vary)

- Kern, Keveren, Kreader, et al. *Hal Leonard Adult Piano Method*, **Bk. 1 w/ 2 CDs**
- Marlais, Helen. *Sight Reading & Rhythm Every Day*, **Bk. 1A**
- Faber, Nancy & Randall. *I Can Read Music*, **Bks. 1 & 2**

COURSE POLICIES

WEEKLY PIANO PRACTICE

To be successful in this skills based course, it is essential that you devote outside class time to practicing the piano. You are therefore required to practice at least ONE HOUR each week outside of class time. The best location for this practice time is the Music Department's practice facilities in the Allison Fine Arts building. Through the generosity of the Bryce & Isabel Rea Charitable Trust, class piano students enjoy the very best quality of instruments to practice on. There are two practice areas that are made available to class piano students:

1. AFA 124 - Bryce & Isabel Rea Center for Music Technology & Creativity (CMTC)

The CMTC is open for practice between the hours of 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The computers in this space are made available to music students who are completing musical work only and are not available for e-mail or chat.

2. AFA 143 - Practice Room C

Practice Room C is open for practice between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Since this room is an individual practice room, students will schedule specific practice room times. Room scheduling procedures and policies will be announced during the second week of class.

When scheduling your practice time, try to spread your time out into 20 minute sessions. Since regular repetition is the most effective way to improve, practicing 20 minutes a day, 3 days a week is much better than practicing 1 hour a day for only 1 day a week. Keep in mind that your practice needs may vary based on previous experience and/or natural physical ability. Each time you practice in either AFA 143, you must sign IN and OUT using the "Practice Log Book" in each room. This log book will be used to help calculate your "Weekly Piano Practice" course grade.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Success in this course depends on regular attendance and practice. Experienced has proven many times over that those students who attend class regularly perform much better than those who do not.

You will be allowed two absences for the semester without penalty, no questions asked. After that, every unexcused absence will lower your final course grade by 5%.

Excused absences will only be granted for documented medical or family emergencies; for religious or cultural obligations; or for university-sanctioned events. Common cold-type illnesses will not be excused. Consistent lateness to class will be treated as an absence. Three tardies will be considered an absence.

Students who know they will require special accommodation for attendance or assignments for any of these reasons should inform the instructor of the fact as far ahead of time as possible.

Keep in mind that you are still responsible for the material you miss when absent, whether your absence is considered excused or not. Upon returning to class, you have one week to complete the work you missed. After a week has elapsed, all missed assignments will receive a grade of 0.

FINGERNAILS--Fingernails inhibit good piano technique. Therefore, to play the piano well and with confidence, fingernails must be kept very short. There can be no exceptions.

FACEBOOK.COM

The Midland College Department of Music keeps a Facebook.com page. “Like” us and you will be kept abreast of all the musical news and events happening here at Midland College. Find us at <http://www.facebook.com/MidlandCollegeMusic> (Note: this site is not for student/instructor communication).

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The expected learning outcomes for this course will be assessed through:

- Class Performance 50%
 - Preparation and performance of class assignments.
 - Individual progress during the semester.
 - Class Attendance.
- Weekly Piano Practice (Outside of Class) 25%
- Music Terminology Exam 10%
- Final Performance Exam 15%

GRADING

Final course grades are assigned based on the following scale:

- A = 100 – 90%
- B = 89 – 80%
- C = 79 – 70%
- D = 69 – 60%
- F = Below 60%

GRADING GUIDELINES FOR CLASS PERFORMANCE

Class Performance will be graded according to the following guidelines:

- An “**A**” class performance grade (50 – 45%) exhibits outstanding preparation and understanding of the material. Playing is secure, comfortable, and an appropriate performance tempo is adhered to. Attention is paid to details of articulation, dynamics, and phrasing. No unexcused absences recorded.
- A “**B**” class performance grade (40 – 44%) exhibits thorough preparation and understanding of the material. The tempo is basically steady but some details of articulation, dynamics, and phrasing need attention. Technique is solid, but may seem a bit tense or uncomfortable. No unexcused absences recorded.
- A “**C**” class performance grade (35 - 39%) exhibits adequate preparation and understanding of the material. The tempo is generally steady, but some details of

articulation, dynamics, and phrasing need attention. Technique seems tense and uncomfortable. One unexcused absence recorded.

- A “**D**” class performance grade (30 - 34%) exhibits inadequate preparation and understanding of the material. Tempo is uneven and technique is awkward or uncoordinated. Two unexcused absences are recorded.
- An “**F**” class performance grade (Below 30%) exhibits unacceptable work. Two or more unexcused absences recorded.

ATTENDANCE IN IVC CLASSES

Early College High School and Dual Credit students must show themselves on camera at least once AND turn in that day’s classtime tasks to be counted presented.

DROP / WITHDRAWAL

The student is responsible for initiating a drop or withdrawal, not the instructor.

Withdrawal from course: The instructor is not able to withdraw a student from the course after the census date. A student wishing to withdraw must fill out the **withdrawal form in MyMCPortal**.

2023-2024 WITHDRAWAL DATES

Fall	November 27
Fall First 8-Week Session	September 28
Fall Second 8-Week Session	November 27
December Mini-Semester	December 26
Spring	April 11
Spring First 8-Week Session	February 22
Spring Second 8-Week Session	April 25
May Mini-Semester	May 23
Summer I	July 3
Summer II	August 8

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

For Research information, tutorials, library information, web links and more, access the **Distance Learning Webpage for the [Midland College Fasken Learning Resource Center](#)**.

Academic Database Access

1. Go to [Midland College Fasken Learning Resource Center](#).

2. Click on big green box labeled “A-Z Databases.”
3. Click on link for desired database
4. **You will be taken to the Midland College Microsoft 365 site, and from there you will be taken directly to EBSCO.**
5. **Sign in to Microsoft 365.**

TECHNICAL SUPPORT for Canvas problems

1. Navigate to the page in Canvas where the problem exists
2. Click the Help icon in the dark green toolbar on the left
3. Select “Report a Problem”, complete the short form and Submit
4. Check your MC student email account for responses to your ticket.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit <https://www.midland.edu/services-resources/accommodation-services.php> and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a “Notice of Accommodations” letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations. For more information or questions, please contact Shep Grinnan, Counselor at sgrinnan@midland.edu or 432-685-4505.

Phone, Midland College Special Needs Counselor: 432-685-5598

[Midland College Disability Services](#)

[Microsoft Accessibility](#)

[Canvas Accessibility](#)

[Turnitin Accessibility](#)

[Adobe Reader Accessibility](#)

[Google Reader Accessibility](#)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

[Academics and Student Services](#)

Phone, Midland College Testing Center: 432-685-4735

Phone, LanguageHub, Midland College On-Campus Writing Center: 432-685-4811, 182 TC Language Hub Online (available to all students in Canvas)

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUE PROCESS

[Midland College Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

PRIVACY POLICIES

The below privacy policies apply to this course, as they are applicable to your conduct on this online platform.

[Midland College Website Privacy Policy](#)

[Canvas Privacy Policy](#)

[YouTube Privacy Policy](#)

[Canvas Student Guide](#)

[Turnitin Privacy Policy](#)

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name:

Email:

Office Location:

Office Phone:

Office Hours:

Department Chair: Dr. Rabon Bewley

Division Dean, Fine Arts

and Communications: Dr. William Feeler

Secretary: Ms. Lula Lee

Division Office: 135 AFA

Phone: 432-685-4624

Division Office hours: 8-5, Monday-Friday

Non-Discrimination Statement

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Nicole Cooper, Title IX Coordinator

129 SSC

432-685-4781

TitleIX@midland.edu

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

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