



Applied Piano Lesson Syllabus, Fall, 2011

MUSC 1500 (1 credit hours), CRN: 88898)

Prerequisite: Permission of the Dept. Head

Co-requisite: MUSC 1710 or 3410

Instructor: Michiko Otaki

Office: Music 216; 678-466-4756 Fax:678-466-4769

Office Hours: T: 9:30-10:30, 2:00:3:00; W: 10:00-11:00; R: 9:30-10:30

Email: MichikoOtaki@clayton.edu

Web Address: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/otaki>

Course Description:

Secondary private piano lessons (25 minutes in length) at a scheduled time once a week. Lessons will include working on scales/arpeggios, repertoire, and sight-reading.

Program Learning Outcomes

Outcome No. 1 & 2 for BA in Music and BM and No. 4 in BM will be assessed. For the complete description of the Music Outcomes, click on the link: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/music/>

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will learn

- the proper and appropriate style of music of various eras and composers, and will be able to play accordingly.
- to play the piano with efficient and effective technique.
- to play pieces with note and rhythmic accuracy in appropriate tempo.
- to play with proper articulation, dynamics and phrasing.
- how to interpret pieces of music with an appropriate balance of stylistic integrity and personal creativity and expression.
- how to sightread, to practice efficiently, and to memorize.
- to perform in public in proper and convincing manner.

Requirements:

- Regular attendance
- Minimum of two pieces of solo piano music, suitable for each student's ability.
- Three tests, given at the beginning of the lesson according to the schedule below. The test with the lowest score will be discarded.
- Students are encouraged to attend and perform in piano studio classes.
- An applied jury exam (about 15 minutes; two contrasting pieces, scales, sight-reading). Students are required to perform at least one piece from memory. Be prepared to answer questions concerning the compositions you are playing and their composers, and the musical terms in the compositions. You must take the final jury exam in order to pass this course.
- Students must own an original copy of the assigned music by the 5th week of the semester. If any pieces are assigned after that time, the music should be purchased within two weeks of the assignment.
- Students must number the measures of all assigned pieces.
- Any material borrowed from the instructor during the semester must be returned before the last day of classes in order to receive a passing grade.
- Students must bring a notebook to their lessons for instructor's comments.
- Students must abide by policies in the Clayton State University Student Handbook, the [Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities](#)

Required Material

- Music for assigned pieces
- Book of scales (must include all major and harmonic/melodic minor scales)
- A metronome in good working condition
- A small music dictionary (such as the *Oxford Concise Dictionary of Music* or *Harper Collins Dictionary of Music*) which contains articles on both music and musicians

Mid-Term Progress Report

The mid-term grade in this course will be issued by 10/4. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of “W.” Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form available in the Office of the Registrar, or withdraw on-line using the Swan at <https://secure.clayton.edu/studentforms/withdraw.aspx> by 10/7.

University Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students’ ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.

Absences/Make-up Policy

- The instructor is not obligated to make up lessons missed by students for any reasons but effort will be made to do so **one time only per semester in cases of illness or death in the family.**
- Any absences other than illness or death in the family will not be made up or rescheduled. If you must miss a lesson, please make arrangements whenever possible with another student to switch lesson times - then notify your instructor.
- Please be on time for your lessons. Your lesson is canceled if you are more than 10 minutes late, and will not be made up.

Computing Requirements and Responsibilities:

Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>. Student notebook computers will not be used in the classroom in this course.

Computer Skill Prerequisites:

- Able to receive and send email using the CSU-issued email address
- Able to use GaView

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:

Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. Instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial Procedures are described at <http://admins-services.clayton.edu/judicial>

Disruption of the Learning Environment

Behavior which disrupts the teaching–learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF. A more detailed description of examples of disruptive behavior and appeal procedures is provided at:

<http://a-s.clayton.edu/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.htm>

Tentative Schedule:

Test No. 1: Between 9/21 and 9/27, at the beginning of your scheduled lesson

Test No. 2: Between 10/19 and 10/25, at the beginning of your scheduled lesson

Test No. 3: Between 11/16 and 11/22, at the beginning of your scheduled lesson

Studio Classes: Wednesdays, 12:00-12:50*

Jury: TBA (During the Final Exam Week, which is Monday, 12/5 though Friday, 12/9)

*There will be no studio classes on some Wednesdays. The dates will be announced later in semester.

Grading System:

Objectives met*	20%
Tests **	50%
Jury**	30%

*Semester objectives for each student will be determined during the first 3 weeks of the semester.

**Grades are calculated as 80% repertoire, 10% sight-reading, 10% scales. Repertoire portion will be graded on the following criteria.

- Accuracy of rhythm and appropriate rhythmic vitality
- Steady and appropriate tempo
- Accuracy of notes
- Overall shape and fluidity (no stopping or hesitation)
- Cleanness of playing (tone quality, pedaling)
- Musicality (appropriate style, phrasing, articulation, dynamics)
- Technique, proper alignment, efficient/economical movement
- Memorization

Tests and jury are graded using the following system.

- 10-Virtually perfect
- 9-Superior achievement
- 8-Very good; only a few inconsistencies remain
- 7-Acceptable; still considerable room for improvement
- 6-Minimal competence; unsuitable for professional progress
- 5-Failing, but shows some achievement
- 4-Failing; shows little achievement
- 3-Failing; shows no achievement
- 2-Failing; completely unacceptable
- 1-Failing; exhibits no concept of proper goals
- 0-No credit

In case of illness or death in the family on scheduled test days, a make-up exam will be given within the next 7 days with no penalty. The test can also be made up within 7 days in case of all other absences, but 0.5 points will be deducted from the total score. The tests will not be made up after 7 days except in extreme circumstances. A jury cannot be made up, and will only be given during the scheduled time and day.

The following scale is used for grading.

A: 9 and above B: 8-8.99 C: 7-7.99 D: 6-6.99 F: Below 6

A note on repertoire outside of your Applied Lessons:

You must first get the instructor's permission before playing any pieces other than the ones assigned to you for your lessons in the Music program. This includes, but not limited to, pieces written by student composers and accompaniment for fellow students. If approached by other students for such opportunities, please ask the students to talk to your instructor first.

The content of this course syllabus correlates to education standards established by national and state education governing agencies, accrediting agencies and learned society/ professional education associations. Please refer to the course correlation matrices located at the following web site:

<http://a-s.clayton.edu/teachered/Standards%20and%20Outcomes.htm>

Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 255, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@clayton.edu