

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

MUS 43 - Piano IV

1 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): MUS 42

Recommended Prep: NONE

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

8.5 hours Lecture

25.5 hours Lab

This course consists of individualized study of the appropriate techniques and repertoire for the piano at an advanced level. The focus is on advanced piano techniques, more compositional processes, ensemble playing and accompanying. Emphasis is on the progressive development of skills needed for solo performance. Achievement is evaluated through a juried performance. This course is primarily intended for music majors.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Play with precise rhythm at an advanced level.
- B. Play the correct pitches with accurate intonation at an advanced level.
- C. Play with the articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and expression appropriate to the literature being studied at an advanced level.
- D. Play in a stylistically appropriate manner suitable to the genre, period, and style of the literature.
- E. Perform improvised solos as applicable.
- F. Demonstrate appropriate blend and balance when performing as an accompanist or in an ensemble.
- G. Memorize performance literature when appropriate to the performance medium and artistic tradition.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Improvisation	4.50
2. Playing with other musicians	4.00
Total Hours	8.50

Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Advanced harmonization	3.00
2. Advanced improvising techniques	8.00
3. Sight reading	6.00
4. Ensemble playing	3.00
5. Accompanying	3.00
6. Performance evaluation and analysis	2.50
Total Hours	25.50

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Collaborative Group Work
- C. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- D. Discussion
- E. Demonstrations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Quizzes
- B. Papers
- C. Class participation
- D. Final Examination
- E. Performance Examinations

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read the chapter on practice techniques in "The Jazz Piano Book," by Mark Levine. Be prepared to discuss and demonstrate what you learned in class.
 - 2. Read the chapter on technique in "The Art of Piano Playing," by Heinrich Neuhaus. Be prepared to discuss in class.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Research the life of a famous jazz pianist and write a 1500 word summary of their contributions and importance.
 - 2. Write out a complete harmonic analysis of "Rikki Don't Loose That Number," by Steely Dan, and be prepared to discuss in class.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Practice technique a minimum of 6 hours per week.
 - 2. Attend a concert where the piano is the main, or featured, instrument and write a 2 page paper detailing your experience.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Baker, K.. The Complete Piano Player. 2nd Edition. Amsco Publications, 2010.
- B. Hanon, C. L. . The Virtuoso Pianist, Complete. 1st Edition. G. Schirmer, 1928.
- C. Bach, J. S.. Inventionen und Sinfonien. 2nd Edition. G. Henle Verlag, 1978.

Created/Revised by: Mark Latham

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