

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

MUS 41 - Piano II

1 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): MUS 40

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 intermediate level. The focus of the course is on fundamentals: reading music, posture, hand position, fingering, rhythm, chord structure and progressions, and performance. 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. (C-ID MUS 160).

II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Play with precise rhythm at an intermediate level.
- B. Play the correct pitches with accurate intonation at an intermediate level.
- C. Play with the articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and expression appropriate to the literature being studied at an intermediate 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 with other musicians 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. Review of keyboard basics and music notation	1.00
2. The ii chord	1.50
3. Seventh chords and their inversions	4.00
4. Secondary dominants and modulation	2.00
Total Hours	8.50

Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Major scales beginning on black keys; arpeggios	3.00
2. Triads of black-key major scales; the vi chord	3.00
3. Minor scales beginning on black keys; arpeggios	3.00
4. Triads of black-key minor scales; the iii chord	3.00
5. Modes related to major	2.00

6.	Modes related to minor	2.00
7.	Other scale structures	3.00
8.	More advanced chord progressions in major keys	2.50
9.	More advanced chord progressions in minor keys	2.00
10.	Performance evaluation and analysis	2.00
	Total Hours	25.50

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Demonstrations
- D. Problem-Solving Sessions

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Papers
- C. Class participation
- D. Performance Examinations

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read Grove's Encyclopedia of Music or any reference work about the piano's history. Be prepared to discuss in class.
 - 2. Read an issue of "Clavier" online dealing with fingering. Be prepared to discuss in class.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Prepare a research paper of 1500 words on a prominent piano performer and their technical contributions.
 - 2. Attend a concert where the piano is the principal instrument or plays a substantial role in the performance, and write a 2 page paper detailing your experience.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Practice the piano technique of the week for a minimum of 1 hour per day.
 - 2. Listen to a recording of solo piano music. Pay particular attention to the soloist's use of dynamics, the pedal, and articulation.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Baker, K.. The Complete Piano Player. 2nd Edition. Amsco Publications, 2010.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Handouts

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