

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for MUS 21B

BEGINNING PIANO: INTERMEDIATE

Effective: Fall 2017

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 21B — BEGINNING PIANO: INTERMEDIATE — 1.00 units

Development of skills learned in Music 21A. Emphasis on further development of technique and performance.

1.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

MUS 21A - Beginning Piano
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

Family: Music Piano

	<u>MIN</u>
Lab Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering the course a student should be able to:

A. MUS21A

1. Exhibit technical skills adequate for beginner pieces
2. Perform in ensemble with one or more other students
3. Perform simple pieces in correct rhythm and at a reasonable tempo

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Perform early intermediate pieces in correct rhythm and at a reasonable tempo
- B. Exhibit technical skills adequate for early intermediate pieces
- C. Demonstrate knowledge of all major and minor keys
- D. Practice in a disciplined fashion
- E. Perform scales in all major and minor keys
- F. Perform chord progressions (I, IV6/4, V6/3, I) in all major and minor keys
- G. Sight-read intermediate level pieces
- H. Perform in ensemble with 1 or more other students
- I. Perform expressively with regard to stylistic considerations of Baroque, Classic, Romantic and 20th Century music

V. CONTENT:

A. Early intermediate piano literature

1. Baroque
2. Classic
3. Romantic
4. 20th Century
5. Popular styles

B. Reading music notation at the keyboard

1. Reading in all major and minor keys
2. Complex rhythms including whole, half, quarter, eighth and sixteenth notes
3. Expressive markings

C. Major and minor scales

1. Two octaves
2. Hands together

D. Chord Progressions

1. Major and minor keys
2. Hands together

- E. Sight reading
 - 1. Principles of good sight reading
 - 2. Skill building
 - 3. Practice techniques
- F. Improvisation
 - 1. Adding chords to a given melody when no chord symbols are given
 - 2. Improvising a melody over a given chord structure
- G. Technical exercises in increasing complexity
- H. Ensemble playing
 - 1. Duets
 - 2. Larger ensembles

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Audio sources for playback and recording
- B. Guest presentations when available/feasible
- C. Individual and ensemble performance
- D. **Lecture** -
- E. **Demonstration** -
- F. Films and recordings

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. In reading (example):
 - 1. Read the handout on practice suggestions and evaluate your own routine.
- B. In writing, listening, problem solving/critical thinking:
 - 1. Provide chord symbols for a given melody.
 - 2. Analyze a given melody and suggest suitable accompaniment figures.
 - 3. Listen to the performance of another student and give constructive suggestions.
- C. In performance:
 - 1. Record and analyze your performance of "Dream Echoes" and discuss and implement ways to improve it.
 - 2. Prepare "German Dance" by Haydn and perform it for the class.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Other:
 - a. Practical performance activities. Typical tasks:
 - 1. Perform a prepared piece for the class.
 - 2. Play the G minor scale, two octaves, hands together.
 - b. Collaborative learning
 - 1. With a partner, choose and perform a duet for the class.
 - 2. Choose, rehearse and perform an ensemble piece with 4-6 students.
 - c. Mid-term examination
 - 1. Perform a prepared piece.
 - 2. Perform a required scale or technical exercise.

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Weekly practical performance activities
- 2. One mid-term recital
- 3. One final recital
- 4. One final examination
 - a. Prepared piece selected by the student
 - b. Scale and chord progression selected by the instructor
 - c. Sight reading

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Lancaster, E. L. and Kenon D. Renfrow *Group Piano for Adults*. 2nd ed., Alfred Publishing, 2008.
- 2. Goodine, Elizabeth. *Simplifying Chords: A Textbook For the Classroom and a Reference For the Road*. 1st ed., Tate Publishing, 2016.
- 3. Terzibaschitsch, Anne. *Piano Dreams Solo Book 2*. 1st ed., Trinity College London Press, 2016.
- 4. eNovative Piano - Online Curriculum for group piano classes. 2009. Designed by Firefly Digital, a Lafayette Web Design Firm. info@enovativepiano.com

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: