

Las Positas College
3000 Campus Hill Drive
Livermore, CA 94551-7650
(925) 424-1000
(925) 443-0742 (Fax)

Course Outline for MUS 21B
BEGINNING PIANO: INTERMEDIATE
Effective: Fall 2010

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MUS 21B — BEGINNING PIANO: INTERMEDIATE — 1.00 units

Development of skills learned in Music 21 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

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 beginning 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):
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. Prepare Technical Exercise 1a on page 236 in *Progressive Piano for Adults* and perform it in 3 different keys.
 - 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 practical examination
- 3. 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. Heerema, Elmer *Progressive Class Piano*. 2nd ed., Alfred Publishing, 1984.
- 2. Hilley, Martha and Lynn Freeman Olson *Piano for the Developing Musician*. 5th ed., Schirmer, 2002.
- 3. Lancaster, E. L. and Kenon D. Renfrow *Group Piano for Adults*. 2nd ed., Alfred Publishing, 2008.
- 4. Small, Allan *Basic Timing for Pianists*. Alfred Publishing, 2006.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: