



MUSI-1181-161C3-FA2025
Class Piano I – 161C3
Course Semester (Fall 2025)
August 18-October 9,2025

Instructor Information: Loanny Hernández, Adjunct Professor; lhernandezmesa@com.edu, Please use com email to communicate or D2L Brightspace. (I do not have an office phone number).

Required Textbook/Materials: Alfred's Group Piano For Adults, Book 1 Second Edition. E. L. Lancaster. Kenon D. Renfrow.

Course Description: This course is designed for non-keyboard music majors with little or not keyboard experience. Upon completion of this book, students will have a strong grasp of functional skills, keyboard technique and musical styles, and will be ready to begin Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 2.

Course requirements: Bring your own lesson book to the class. There will be quizzes on sight-reading, major and minor scales. I will be leaving reading assignments to prepare for the quiz and the lesson \ on D2. Each student has to prepare a final piece to play at the end of the course where they can demonstrate their technical and musical growth. The piece that you choose does not have to be from the book.

SPECIAL NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus during the semester to make things clearer or to add additional opportunities for points but will notify the class in such cases.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

70% Quizzes – over reading assignments, sight-reading, major and minor scales.
15% Attendance
15% Final piece presentation

NO FINAL EXAM!!

90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F

Attendance Policy: The instructor reserves the right to drop or fail any student who has not attended class for two weeks for any reason. However, do not assume that you will be automatically dropped. Most likely you will not, and it is up to you to contact Dr. Jantz and/or drop before “W” day if you are concerned about your grade. You will need to fill out the drop form and turn it in yourself.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Demonstrating proficiency in reading music	Learn note names in the two clefs.	In class work
2. Playing with proper technique	Master, correct posture, hand position, fingering and arm movement	In class work
3. Understanding music theory concepts	Learn note names, values and rests, basic time signatures, accidentals.	In class work
4. Sight-reading and improv skills	The ability to create original melodies and read simple melodies	Reading assignment
5. Learning and performing pieces	Choose a piece to demonstrate	Final performance

Academic Dishonesty: Disciplinary actions will be taken for students who exhibit disorderly conduct, cheat on exams, submit plagiarized work (see below), or are involved in collusion (helping others cheat or plagiarize) as defined in the Student Handbook under the heading, “Discipline and Penalties.” The maximum penalty imposed for violations will be an F in the course. The student will also be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Please read through the “Standards of Student Conduct” in the Student Handbook for a more complete discussion of these issues and your rights and responsibilities.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dr. Kristina Jantz, Fine Arts Department Chair, at 409-933-8255 or kjantz@com.edu.

Course outline:

Week 1: Introduction to the class. Keyboard Basics. Readings and quizzes on basic elements/vocabulary

- Week 2: Major Five Intervals and Other Keyboard basics, major five finger patterns.
- Week 3: Reading Assignment and quiz. Major Five-Finger Pattern Review, Minor Five-Finger Patterns, Minor Five Finger Pattern Review.
- Week 4: Chord Qualities, Major Scales in Tetrachord Position, Major Scales, and Triads of the Key
- Week 5: Reading Assignment and Quiz. Major Scales, Triads and Inversions. The Dominant and Dominant Seventh Chords. The Subdominant Chords. Primary chords in Major keys
- Week 6: Assignment and quiz. Minor scales in tetrachord positions. Minor Scales and triads of the Key. Primary chords in minor keys
- Week 7: Major Scales and Triads of the Key. The ii chord. The vi chord. The iii chord. Seventh Chords. Other scales Structures.
- Week 8: Review of scales and chords. Final piece presentation
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Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html> *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodation(s) is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress: If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement: The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.
