



MU 324 ELEMENTARY PIANO IV

Instructor: Professor Janise White
Office: Fine Arts Complex Room 300
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:45 to 1:45pm in FA 204
Thursday 12:45 to 1:45pm in FA 204
Classroom: Fine Arts Room 204
Textbook: Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book II
Beethoven Sonata
The Library of Piano Classics II by Hal Leonard
Chopin Ballades; Chopin Preludes;
Basix Scales & Arpeggios
Email: whitejan@wlac.edu
Tools: Piano or 88-key Full Size Digital Piano with weighted action;
Metronome;
Units: 2 Units UC:CSU Transferable

MU 324 Elementary Piano IV further advances the keyboard facility of the student in preparation for the promotion to Intermediate Piano and passing the Keyboard Proficiency Exam. The repertoire includes Beethoven Sonatas, Chopin Etudes and Ballades in addition to short characteristic pieces by Romantic composers. Elementary Piano IV emphasizes chord progressions, scales, arpeggios, accompaniment patterns, harmonizations of short folk melodies in all keys.

A total of two to three repertoire pieces may be studied from the selected repertoire. Each Thursday, additional sections of the repertoire will be performed. On Tuesdays, the student will prepare the chord progression exercises with modulations to different keys; harmonizations; accompaniment pattern exercises or scales and arpeggios as listed in the

syllabus. Private sessions at the Disklavier will aid the student in executing the repertoire during the laboratory segment of the class. With meticulous practice using the appropriate fingering, technique, note accuracy, proper dynamics, and pedal technique while gradually progressing from a steady slow to a fast tempo, the student will develop tactile memory and successfully perform the repertoire.

Weekly student class performances are mandatory. The student will be graded on the overall preparation and performance of each piece selected from the piano repertoire. The class session meets bi-weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays for sixteen weeks. It is structured into two segments: (1) Lecture-Demonstration and (2) Laboratory. For finger dexterity, technical exercises or etudes precede each lecture. An introduction to the assignment will be presented during the Lecture-Demonstration segment. This will assist the student in assimilating the musical terms, rhythm and specific piano techniques required to satisfactorily complete the assignment. Further instructional assistance is available by appointment only during Office Hours. The student will be required to prepare the assignments listed in the syllabus for performance at every class session. Midterm and Final Exam selections chosen by the instructor must be performed for the Piano Class in order to receive a passing grade.

West Los Angeles' Music Department supports the piano students by offering a Piano Practice Lab adjacent to the Piano Classroom. The lab is open daily. If you are in need of a practice piano, you will find the lab accessible for class assignment preparation. Recommended daily practice time should be one hour or as long as necessary to comfortably perform with confidence.

In addition to daily assignments, Midterm and Final Exam, one Piano Concert Report Activity is mandatory. The purpose of the Piano Concert Report Activity is threefold: (1) It is beneficial for broadening the artistic scope of the student with exposure to a wide range of keyboard repertoire; (2) It inspires artistic development; and (3) It fulfills the Critical Thinking General Education Requirement.

Piano Concert Report Guidelines: One two-page typed report will be due by the Final Exam and is to be submitted to the instructor on that due date. You are required to detail the concert featuring a pianist in the following manner:

1. Simply list the performer's name, along with a condensed summary, highlighting the artists' training performance history and major accomplishments.
2. List the repertoire performed.
3. Give the title and a brief description of your most enjoyable composition on the program.
4. Critique the entire concert in terms of the artistic level of the performance.
5. Attach a program indicating the date and location of the concert.

Recommendation: Local university student recitals (USC, UCLA, CSUN, CSULA) and “Sundays Live” at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles at 6:00pm on Sundays and the admission is Free.

PIANO CLASSROOM RULES

FOOD & DRINKS PROHIBITED

The pianos must be used with care. Students will not be permitted to bring food or drinks into the classroom for the protection and management of the Piano Class instruments. Any accidental spills will disable the piano for one week. To avoid these accidents, the no-food and no-drink rule will be enforced.

PIANO CARE

Strike the piano keys with sufficient strength to produce musical tones with clarity. Remember, this is not a hammerklavier! By approaching the instrument with a relaxed upper torso the pianist will succeed in producing wonderful music. Conversely, the opposite is also true that with a tense upper torso, hammering will result which may ruin the piano’s action mechanism.

EQUIPMENT CARE

The Piano Class equipment must be used with care. Headphones are fragile and subject to crack if dropped. Each student is responsible for the headphone located at their workstation. Simply place the headphones on the left end of the piano when not in use. Sit properly on the piano bench with both feet on the floor. Upon leaving the piano class, turn off the piano and close the lid. Next, slide the piano bench under the piano and exit the classroom.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Computers shall be used to facilitate note taking only. Cellular phones shall remain on silent at all times. Other electronic devices such as iPods shall not be used in the classroom.

COURTESY RULE: Students will be requested to reserve judgement on all performances to the discretion of the instructor. In accordance with the Student Conduct Code, any student exhibiting inappropriate behavior will be referred to the administration for suspension or permanent expulsion from the class.

ATTENDANCE:

Students’ attendance is mandatory. In the event of an absence, the student should contact the instructor by email. Three or more unexcused absences will result in exclusion from the class roster.

EVALUATION METHODS AND GRADING CRITERIA:

Piano students may earn up to 10 points for each class performance. The Midterm and Final Exams are worth up to 50 points each. All assignments must be completed by the

final class meeting or an F grade will be given. Incomplete grades will only be issued in unmitigating circumstances following a consultation with the student.

Daily Assignments and Attendance	50%
<u>Concert Report, Midterm Exam and Final Exam</u>	<u>+ 50%</u>
Total Points= Grade	100%

Grade Distribution:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	50-59%

EXAMINATION CALENDAR

MIDTERM EXAM – Thursday, October 24, 2013

FINAL EXAM – Thursday, December 5, 2013

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Labor Day.....Monday, September 2, 2013

Veteran’s Day.....Monday, November 11, 2013

Thanksgiving Day.....Thursday, November 28-December 1, 2013

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

PIANO IV – MU 324

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

- Augmented Sixth Chord Types and Resolutions
- Neapolitan Chord
- Minor Scales
- Primary Chords
- Romantic Ornaments and Rubato
- Staccato, Portato, Marcato, Staccatissimo

IDENTIFICATION OF MUSICAL FORMS

Sonata

Character Pieces:

- Preludes
- Etudes
- Nocturnes
- Ballades
- Scherzos
- Mazurkas
- Polonaises

TECHNICAL COMPETENCE

Augmented Sixth Chord Types

Neapolitan Chord

Minor Scales in 2 octaves

Natural

Harmonic

Melodic

Harmonizations of Minor Pentascale Melodies

Transpositions

Perform Romantic Music: Intermediate Level Repertoire

Sonatas

Character Pieces:

Preludes Etudes Nocturnes

Ballades Scherzos Mazurkas

Polonaises

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

French Preludes, Etudes, Nocturnes, Ballades

Italian Scherzo; Italian/Viennese Sonata; Polish Mazurkas, Polonaise;

German, Irish, Russian, Character Pieces

MU 324	Assignments
Week 1: Exploring Augmented and Diminished Triads	Tuesday: Read and Play p. 7-8; Thursday: Inversions p. 25; Practice p. 271 Repertoire Selection
Week 2: A minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: A minor Scale S&A p. 38-39; Thursday: Harmonize p. 155#2 Play p. 271
Week 3: E minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: E minor Scale S&A p. 40-41; Thursday: Harmonize p. 119#1 Midterm Repertoire
Week 4: B minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: B minor Scale S&A p. 42-43; Thursday: Transpose 330 No. 1; Midterm Repertoire
Week 5: F# minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: F# minor Scale S&A p. 44-45; Thursday: Harmonize p. 185 No.1; Midterm Repertoire
Week 6: C# minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: C# minor Scale S&A p. 46-47; Thursday: Harmonize p. 185 No. 1; Midterm Repertoire
Week 7: MIDTERM DRESS REHEARSAL	Memorization Drills
Week 8: MIDTERM EXAM	MIDTERM EXAM: Midterm Repertoire
Week 9: D minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: D minor Scale S&A p. 54-55; Thursday: Play p. 31 No. 1;
Week 10: G minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: G minor Scale S&A p. 56-57; Thursday: Harmonize p. 71 No. 1; Final Exam Repertoire
Week 11: C minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: C minor Scale S&A p. 58-59; Thursday: Harmonize p. 282; Final Exam Repertoire
Week 12: F minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: F minor Scale S&A p. 60-61; Thursday: Play p. 272 No. 1; Final Exam Repertoire
Week 13: B flat Minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: B flat minor Scale S&A p. 62-63; Thursday: Play p. 276 No. 3; Final Exam Repertoire
Week 14: E flat Minor Scale and Arpeggios	Tuesday: E flat minor Scale S&A p. 64-65; Thursday: Transpose p. 214 No. 4; Final Exam Repertoire
Week 15: FINAL EXAM DRESS REHEARSAL	FINAL EXAM REPERTOIRE
Week 16: FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM REPERTOIRE DUE PIANO CONCERT REPORT DUE

