**Music 20 – Beginning Piano Level I**

Reedley College –Fall Semester 2015

Syllabus

Course Number – 56430

Meeting Time/Place – Monday/Wednesday 9:00 – 9:50am / Forum 10

REMINDER DATES:

Last day to drop: (F) 8/28 (refund), (F) 9/4 (no refund)

School Holidays: (M) 9/7 – Labor Day, (M) 11/11 – Veteran’s Day and

(Th/F) 11/26-11/27 – Thanksgiving Break

Last day to withdraw: 10/16 – After 10/16 a letter grade will be assigned.

**Instructor Information**: Name – Michael Downing

Phone – 559.213.6694

Email – michael.downing@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours – By Arrangement

**Required Materials**: *Alfred’s All in One Adult Piano Course/Theory Book*

Check out the RC *Fundamentals of Piano Theory*

bookstore, go to Manuscript Paper/Notebook Paper/Folder or Binder

[www.mycampushub.com](http://www.mycampushub.com) PENCIL - work done in pen will not be accepted

or call 638-0334

**Course Description**: This class is an introduction to proper piano playing technique and basic music theory skills.

**Attendance**: Regular attendance and punctuality are strongly recommended and will greatly affect your grade. **More than eight combined hours of absence will result in a failing grade.** If a student is tardy, it is the student's responsibility to make sure he or she is marked present (after class). **Any student with marked absences in the first three weeks may be dropped. Students may be dropped at the withdraw date (10/16) at the discretion of the instructor if they have missed a significant number of class or practice hours.**

**Grading**: Your grade will be determined from a combination of homework, quizzes/midterm, playing tests, a final examination, and a final recital. Completion of all portions of the class is mandatory. The rubric is as follows:

Homework: 20%

Quizzes/Midterm Exam: 20%

Playing Tests: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Recital: 20% TBA

A = 90% and above, B = 80-89.99%, C = 70-79.99%, D = 60-69.99%, F = 59.99% and below

**Objectives and Outcomes**:

Students will develop basic knowledge of the piano keyboard, including correct posture and hand positioning, note names for all of the black and white keys, half steps and whole steps, and scale patterns.

Students will learn to interpret how basic music notation on the grand staff is applicable to their instrument. This will include written notes, time signatures, key signatures, accidentals, dynamics, and rhythm. Rhythms will include sixteenth, eighth, quarter, half, and whole notes and rests.

Students will demonstrate a practical understanding of music notation by reading and playing notes on the piano, counting out loud, and dictating simple notes and rhythms.

Students will apply their knowledge of the piano keyboard by playing five-finger patterns in all twelve diatonic major keys.

Students will understand and apply the process of transposition of songs to different keys.

Students will come to know the process behind preparing a piece of music for public performance by preparing **and memorizing** a piece and performing it in recital.

Classroom work will include lecture/demonstration, quizzes (either written or performance based), and group drill at the keyboards. Homework will include assignments from the theory workbooks and class text.

**Homework dates are assigned per the course schedule attached to this syllabus. All homework is due the first class meeting following the week it is assigned. Missed quizzes/exams will not be made up unless student has serious and compelling circumstances warranting a make-up test. All scale exercises must be completed to pass this course. The recital is mandatory. Students who miss the recital may receive an Incomplete or failing grade.**

The short quizzes will be designed to demonstrate your understanding of the homework assignments. Quizzes will not be open note, however the Midterm and Final Exams will be open note exams.

**Accomodations for Students with Disabilities**:

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor immediately.

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Lab Hours** | | | | **Date** | **Time**  **(smallest increment ½ hour)** | **Initials (Instructor)** | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | |
| **Playlist** | |
| Ode To Joy/Aura Lee C-G mm=84 |  |
| Lightly Row C-D mm=92 |  |
| Aunt Rhody C-A mm=86 |  |
| \*C, G, D, A, Scale Exercise mm=110 |  |
| G Major Tune mm=88 |  |
| D Major Tune mm=104 |  |
| Rockin’ Intervals C-E mm=132 |  |
| Jingle Bells C-C# mm=120 |  |
| A Major Tune mm=92 |  |
| Dueling Harmonics C-F# mm=128 |  |
| Brother John C-B mm=120 |  |
| \*E, B, F#, C# Scale Exercise mm=110 |  |
| Here’s a Happy Song! C-F mm=104 |  |
| Merrily We Roll Along C-Eb mm=144 |  |
| Largo C-Bb mm=72 |  |
| Rockets C- Ab mm=112 |  |
| \*F, Bb, Eb, Ab Scale Exercise mm=110 |  |
| F Major Tune |  |
| B-flat Major Tune |  |
| E-flat Major Tune |  |
| \*Starred items (scale exercises) are required in order to receive a grade in the course. Failure to complete scale exercises will result in an incomplete or failing grade. | |

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| Dates | M | W | HW | Important! |
| 8/17-8/21 | Intro to Course | White Keys, C Position | Figure out your Lab Times! |  |
| 8/24-28 | Review, Staff, Clefs, Metronome | Scale Exercise,  G Position | Purple: p. 2-3  Pink: Units 2 & 3  **DUE: 8/31 (M)** | 8/28 (F)  LAST DAY TO DROP (refund) |
| 8/31-9/4 | Note and Rest Types, Counting in 4/4 | **QUIZ**  White Keys, Staff,  Clefs | Pink: Unit 1  **DUE: 9/9(W)** | 9/4 (F)  LAST DAY TO DROP |
| 9/7-9/11 | **LABOR DAY** | REVIEW  Ode to Joy/Aura Lee | Purple: p. 4-11, 17-18, 20, 28  **DUE: 9/16 (M)** | LABOR DAY (M) |
| 9/14-9/18 | Accidentals, Black Keys, D and A Positions | **QUIZ**  Note Types  and Counting | Pink: Unit 6  Purple: p. 30, 44  **DUE: 9/23(M)** |  |
| 9/21-9/25 | Half and Whole Steps, Major  Positions | **QUIZ**  Sharps, Flats, Naturals | Pink: p. 32-35  Purple: p. 45  **DUE: 9/30 (M)** |  |
| 9/28-10/2 | Key Signatures G and D Tunes  Full Scales | **QUIZ**  Half and Whole Steps  5-finger positions | Pink: p. 42-45  Purple: p. 46, 52, 56  **DUE: 10/5 (M)** |  |
| 10/5-10/9 | E, B, F#, C#, Enharmonic | PLAYLIST CHECK  LAB HOUR CHECKS |  |  |
| 10/12-10/16 | **MIDTERM** | PLAYLIST CHECK  A Major Tune |  | Mr. Downing gone on Friday! |
| 10/19-10/23 | F, Bb, Eb, Ab,  Intervals | F Major Tune | Pink: Unit 5  Purple: p. 12-15, 29  **DUE: 10/26 (M)** |  |
| 10/26-10/30 | Triads, Making Major into minor | **QUIZ**  Intervals | Pink: p. 36-41  Purple: p. 16, 47, 48, 53  **DUE: 11/2 (M)** |  |
| 11/2-11/6 | PLAYLIST CHECKS | **QUIZ**  Triads |  |  |
| 11/9-11/13 | Signs and Terms | **Veteran’s Day** | Pink: Unit 11  **DUE: 11/16 (M)** | VETERAN’S DAY (W) |
| 11/16-11/20 | PLAYLIST CHECKS  B-flat Major Tune | REVIEW  E-flat Major Tune |  |  |
| 11/23-11/27 | Chords, I and V7 | **QUIZ**  Signs and Terms | Purple: 19, 21, 22, 31, 32, 33, 49, 55  **DUE: 11/30 (M)** | 11/26-27 (TH/F) THANKSGIVING |
| 11/30-12/4 | Transposing on Paper, Practice Recital | **QUIZ**  I and V7 | Pink: Unit 12  **DUE: 12/7 (M)** |  |
| 12/7-12/11 | Unit 14 | Practice Recital |  |  |
| 12/14-12/18 |  | FINAL EXAM  9:00 – 10:50am |  | FINAL (W) |