

Sul Ross State University, Spring 2015

MUS 1111 001: Individual Instruction: Piano

Lana Cartlidge Potts, Instructor

FAB 107

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**Student Learning Objectives for this course:**

1. The student will make significant progress in learning technical piano skills, including accurate note reading, optimal fingering, appropriate dynamics and phrasing.
2. The student will make significant progress in learning functional piano skills, such as scales, sight reading, and harmonization of melodies.
3. The student will gain a greater knowledge of piano literature.
4. The student will learn, polish and perform at least one piece of appropriate difficulty for his or her level at a Piano Class during the semester.
5. The student will be able to critique a musical performance, including his or her own, with specific feedback regarding accuracy and musicality.
6. The student will attain greater confidence and satisfaction as a pianist.

**Required Texts:**

*Alfred's Complete Book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios & Cadences* (in bookstore)

*Alfred's Basic Adult All-in-One Piano Course, Level 1* (in bookstore)

*The Campfire Songbook* (see instructor)

Other piano literature will be assigned on an individual basis

**Requirements:**

1. Attend all lessons. We will establish a mutually acceptable 30-minute lesson time during the first week of class, and that will be your lesson time for the rest of the semester. Excused absences will be made up at the instructor's discretion.
2. Practice: For MUS 1111 (one 30-minute lesson per week), the SRSU catalog states that you must *average* at least 5 hours practice per week. Weekly practice goals will be established at each lesson. Please bring a notebook to your lessons to write down these goals.
3. Make measurable progress on learning new technical skills (scales, sight reading, harmonization of melodies, piano literature). These skills allow you to become a working, collaborative pianist.
4. Attend both Piano Classes during the semester.
5. Successfully learn, polish and perform at least one piece of appropriate difficulty at a Piano Class during the semester.
6. After observing a musical performance at a Music Program Recital or Concert during the semester, present a written critique of that performance with specific feedback regarding accuracy and musicality. Hard copy due no later than Monday, May 11, 2015, 5:00 pm.
7. At the end of the semester, present a written critique of your progress on learning technical and functional piano skills and literature. Hard copy due no later than Monday, May 11, 2015, 5:00 pm.

**Grading:** Consistent with the above requirements, your semester grade will be determined as follows:

1. Weekly Lessons: 6% each x 12 = 72%: To earn full points for a lesson, arrive on time with weekly practice goals accomplished.
2. Attendance at both Piano Classes: 4% each x 2 = 8%.
3. Performance at one Piano Class: 5%.
4. Attendance at 1 Music Program Recital or Concert: 5%.
5. Written assignments:
  - a. End of Semester Personal Progress Evaluation: 5%
  - b. Critique of Recital Performance: 5%

**Schedule:**

Weeks 1-4 (Jan. 20-Feb. 13): scales and chords, repertoire

Weeks 5-8 (Feb. 16-Mar. 13): scales and chords, sight reading, melody harmonization, repertoire

Weeks 9-15 (Mar. 23-May 6): scales and chords, sight reading, melody harmonization, repertoire, interpretation, performance

**Program Learning Outcomes for Music are:**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she:

1. Is able to integrate appropriate musical expression into performance
2. Is able to prepare appropriate program notes
3. Is able to evaluate and critique a musical performance
4. Has a general knowledge of music history

**Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

## Individual Piano Lessons Lesson Grading Rubric

### Piano Majors:

- 5 = Prepared above and beyond level of assignment  
Exceptional eagerness to learn  
Notes and rhythms are accurate  
Artistic use of style, tempo, phrasing and dynamics
- 4 = Can play entire assignment with few mistakes  
Eager to learn  
Notes and rhythms mostly accurate  
Consistent use of expressive elements
- 3 = Can play entire assignment with average ability  
Few excuses, ready to learn  
Inconsistent note and rhythmic accuracy  
Inconsistent use of expressive elements
- 2 = Can play some of assignment  
Somewhat negative attitude or excuses  
Many note and/or rhythmic inaccuracies  
Little use of expressive elements
- 1 = Unable to play assignment  
Unwilling to learn  
Minimal note and/or rhythmic accuracy  
No use of expressive elements
- 0 = Missed lesson

### Non-Piano Majors:

- 6 = Prepared above and beyond level of assignment  
Exceptional eagerness to learn  
Notes and rhythms are accurate  
Artistic use of style, tempo, phrasing and dynamics
- 5 = Can play entire assignment with few mistakes  
Eager to learn  
Notes and rhythms mostly accurate  
Consistent use of expressive elements
- 4 = Can play entire assignment with average ability  
Few excuses, ready to learn  
Inconsistent note and rhythmic accuracy  
Inconsistent use of expressive elements
- 3 = Can play some of assignment  
Somewhat negative attitude or excuses  
Many note and/or rhythmic inaccuracies  
Little use of expressive elements
- 2 = Unable to play assignment  
Unwilling to learn  
Minimal note and/or rhythmic accuracy  
No use of expressive elements
- 0 = Missed lesson