

SYLLABUS

MUAP 1160/1260 PIANO

FALL 2026

Instructor: Dr. Hye-Gyung Ji

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(806) 716-2263

Office Hours: Posted on the office door (FA Rm. 116) or by appointment

Class Location: Wisian Recital Hall in the Fine Arts Building or FA Rm. 116

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK / SCORES AND EQUIPMENT

After the first class, a textbook or repertoire will be tailored to each student's specific needs and skill level. Additional materials will be supplied, or the instructor will recommend specific items for the students to purchase.

- **A piano or digital keyboard for practicing**
- **Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 1** – *required for freshman music majors*
- **The First Book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios & Cadences (Alfred)** – *required technique book for music majors*
- **Learning Piano Piece by Piece** by Elyse March – *for non-majors*
- **Individually assigned repertoire** – *for advanced-level students*

COURSE CONTENT AND PURPOSE

This course offers an in-depth study of piano, focusing on essential techniques that lead to ideal physical practices, effective practice methods, and a diverse repertoire across various musical styles. Students will explore appropriate musical interpretations, gain confidence in performance settings, learn improvisation, and integrate concepts from music theory and history. The course will introduce students to music fundamentals and teach them how to express themselves through music. It will prepare them to perform at a level suitable for various contexts, including educational settings, solo performances, and participation in both small and large ensembles.

For music majors, the curriculum includes extensive study of keyboard skills to ensure full preparation for the piano proficiency exam at the end of each semester, as well as the placement test required for four-year universities.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Learn fundamentals of piano learning such as posture and hand alignment, the geography of the keyboard, intervals, fingering, articulations, rhythms, the balance of melody and accompaniment, velocity, and pedaling.
- Obtain keyboard skills in Major/minor white key 5-finger patterns, scales, triads, chord cadences (I IV V V7), and arpeggios in various keys.
- Demonstrate a variety of practice techniques, leading to an ability to perform with competence on their instrument.
- Improve sight-reading skills, memorization, and confidence in a live performance setting.
- Learn technical studies not only to enhance comprehension and enjoyment of playing the piano but also to prepare for the piano proficiency exam for music majors.
- Integrate music theory and history into their performance preparation.

METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The expected learning outcomes will be assessed through the:

Class preparation, in-class performances, quizzes, exams, and final recital

GRADES CALCULATED

GRADES CALCULATED FOR NON-MUSIC MAJORS	Grading Percentage	GRADES CALCULATED FOR MUSIC MAJORS
Class Preparation: Students are expected to diligently practice and accomplish their assigned duties for each class.	15%	Class Preparation: Students are expected to diligently practice and accomplish their assigned duties for each class.
Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend every in-person class. All excuses must be notified (not verbally) BEFORE the missed class. Those who miss classes in real-time are responsible for contacting the professor for follow-up. Beginning with the fourth excused absence , every two excused absences will count as one absence .	15%	Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend every in-person class. All excuses must be notified (not verbally) BEFORE the missed class. Those who miss classes in real-time are responsible for contacting the professor for follow-up. Beginning with the fourth excused absence , every two excused absences will count as one absence .
Midterm: Students are required to present their progress by performing one piece at the studio meeting, which will happen in the second week of October . The schedule will be announced later.	20% Tuesday, Oct. 6, At 4 PM	Midterm: Students are required to present their progress on technique routines and one repertoire piece. The technique test will take place during a class session. There will be one studio meeting in the second week of October for the repertoire performance. The schedule to be announced later.
Final Recital Performance: Students will perform one or two piece(s) by memory.	25% Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 4 PM	Final Recital Performance: Students will perform one or two piece(s) by memory.
Recital Attendance: Students must choose one in-person piano recital recommended by the professor and attend the entire recital . Please submit a photo of the recital program via email by Monday, December 6 .	25%	Piano Proficiency Exam: Music majors are responsible for passing the Piano Proficiency Exam (PPE) every semester. The PPE is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2026, beginning at 1:00 p.m. However, students who are ready to take the exam may schedule it earlier.

COURSE STATEMENTS

Please visit the link below to read the course statements.

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>