

SYLLABUS
MUSI 1181 PIANO CLASS I
FALL 2026

Instructor: Dr. Hye-Gyung Ji

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Phone: (806) 716-2263

Class Location: Fine Arts Building Rm. 119 Piano Lab

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

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

- A piano or digital keyboard for practicing
- Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1 (2nd Ed.) by Lancaster and Renfrow (Alfred)
- The First Book of Scales, Chords, Arpeggios & Cadences (Alfred) – *required for music majors*

GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE

The purpose of this course is to teach beginning students to read music on the grand staff and to play the piano at an elementary level. It is also open to non-keyboard music majors and students from other disciplines as an elective. The course will cover basic keyboard skills including reading, repertoire performances, technique, improvisation, harmonization, transposition, and music theory.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Keyboard Skills:	Geography of the keyboard. Major white key 5-finger patterns, minor white key 5-finger patterns, and triads. Scales, root position cadences (I IV V V7), and arpeggios in selected Major keys (C, G, D, A, E, B). Major, minor, augmented, and diminished triads as assigned.
Sight-Reading:	Materials equivalent to Level 1-2
Technique:	Posture and hand alignment, intervals, fingering, articulations, rhythms, balance of melody and accompaniment, velocity, pedaling
Harmonization:	Simple harmonization with chords or with chord roots only
Transposition:	Simple melodies in 5-finger positions
Repertoire:	Reinforced cultivation in reading music and musicality, mental/motor coordination, memorization, in-class performance
Improvisation:	Simple improvisation with well-known melodies or 12-bar blues

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Week 1	Basic fundamentals
Week 2	Developing reading skills and learn repertoire in early-elementary level
Week 3	Easy repertoire: alternating hands, Major /Minor 5-finger positions
Week 4	Easy repertoire: unison playing, Duet ensembles
Week 5	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in C and G Majors
Week 6	Repertoire with RH melody and LH accompaniment
Week 7	Midterm (October 6 th): Technique and Repertoire
Week 8	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in D and A Majors
Week 9	Mid-elementary level repertoire
Week 10	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in E and B Majors
Week 11	Cadences with root notes in LH
Week 12	Prepare for the final recital
Week 13	Final Recital (November 17 th)
Week 14	Prepare for the Piano Proficiency Exam
Week 15	Prepare for the Piano Proficiency Exam (December 7 th)

METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The expected learning outcomes will be assessed through:

In-class performances, class preparation, quizzes, various musical activities, exams, and final recital.

GRADES CALCULATED

1. **Class Preparation (15%)**: Students are expected to diligently practice and accomplish their assignment duties for each class.
2. **Class Attendance (15%)**: Students are expected to attend every in-person class. All excuses must be submitted (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.

3. **Midterm (20%)**: Students are required to present their progress on technique routines and one repertoire piece. **The technique test (10%) will take place during a class session. Students**

should prepare for their midterm performance (10%) during the studio meeting on **Tuesday, October 6, at 4 pm.**

4. **Final Recital Performance (25%):** Students will perform one or two pieces from memory. The final recital was scheduled for **Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 4 pm.**
5. **Piano Proficiency Exam (25%):** 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.

MUSI1181 (25%)	Major Keys: C, G, D, A, E, B • Scales: hands together, 2-octave parallel motion • Root Position Cadences: Hands together • 1 key must be played with root notes in the LH • Arpeggios: hands together, 2-octave parallel motion
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COURSE STATEMENTS

Please visit the link below to read the course statements.

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