

SYLLABUS

MUSI 2181 PIANO CLASS III

FALL 2026

Instructor: Dr. Hye-Gyung Ji

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Class Location: Fine Arts Building Rm. 119 Piano Lab

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

MUSI 1181 and MUSI 1182 Piano Class courses are prerequisites for this course.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

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

GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE

Piano Class III reinforces what students have learned in the previous Piano Class courses, such as reading, theory, technique, and general musicianship through more advanced repertoire. This course will help the students improve performance capacity/musicality and prepare for various requirements for the piano proficiency exam. The course meets two 45-min classes each week.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Reinforcement of reading music at the intermediate level of repertoire.
2. Continue to learn scales, arpeggios, and chord progressions in minor keys.
3. Continue improvisation and harmonization of melodies using varied accompaniment techniques. Introduce select chord progressions and concepts of voice leading.
4. Achieve both in-class and public performances with musicality, confident self-control, and memorization.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Sight-read intermediate-level repertoire by understanding more complicated rhythmic/melodic patterns and articulations.
2. Continue to play major technique routines and learn minor technique routines in various keys and comfortably apply them with comfortable physical motions.
3. Create various accompaniment styles and have a deeper knowledge of music theory to harmonize melodies and transpose them.
4. Simple improvisation with well-known melodies and/or use the notes of blues scales to improvise a 12-bar melody that will correspond with the harmonic progression in one key.
5. Perform advanced intermediate-level piano repertoire in various styles with confidence in a live performance setting.

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Week 1	Warm-ups with reading and finger exercises
Week 2	Developing reading skills and learn repertoire in early advanced level Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in a minor
Week 3	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in e minor Duet ensembles
Week 4	Developing reading skills and learn repertoire in early advanced level Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in b minor Harmonization/Transposition
Week 5	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in c# minor Harmonization/Transposition
Week 6	Prepare for the midterm
Week 7	Midterm (October 6 th): Technique and Repertoire
Week 8	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in f# minor Mid-elementary level repertoire
Week 9	12-bar blues Improvisation
Week 10	Scale, cadence, and arpeggio in g# minor 12-bar blues Improvisation
Week 11	Reinforcement of all keyboard skills
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, midterm, piano proficiency exam, and the final public 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 class in-person. 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.

MUSI 2181	Minor Keys: am, em, bm, f#m, c#m, g#m • Scales: hands together, 2-octave parallel motion, all 3 forms • Cadences: All cadences / Hands together → 1 key must be played with root notes in the LH • Arpeggios: hands together, 2-octave parallel motion Harmonization/Transposition • Harmonization: Must use proper voice leading and simple accompaniment → A simple melody (I IV V or V7) selected by faculty has one week to prepare → Student can choose either Major or minor key • Transposition: 1 prepared key by student, 1 chosen key by faculty → Within a Major 3rd above and below the original key Improvisation: Play 12-bar Blues or choose simple melodies with basic harmony
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COURSE STATEMENTS

Please visit the link below to read the course statements.

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