

**RHODES COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
COURSE SYLLABUS
APPLIED PIANO
CRN 10429
FALL SEMESTER 2004**

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Office hours: see me to schedule an appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will consist of weekly individual piano lessons and scheduled piano labs. You perform on one student recital and two piano labs. The main focus is on the development of the technical, musical, and analytical aspects in relation to the student, the works studied, and the history of piano literature.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) You will learn how to begin a new piece of music by applying a systematic approach that will result in efficient as well as correct practicing.
- 2) You will learn how to incorporate good practice habits.
- 3) You will learn how to be more aware of your body, hands, and position at the keyboard in order to master technical difficulties and movement problems.

It is my wish for you to approach this course with a positive, inquisitive, and hard-working mindset so that we may both grow not only as pianists, but as musicians who are eager to learn and to better ourselves in every way.

III. COURSE CALENDAR

weekly lessons-TBA

piano labs- Mon, October 11th 7-8:15; Thurs, December 2nd 7-8:15 (Tuthill Hall)

Beginner's or Student recital- TBA

Recital attendance-see below

FINAL EXAM- READING DAY, THURSDAY DECEMBER 9TH

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) Lessons

You should attend all lessons on time. Any lessons canceled by the instructor will be made up in a timely fashion. Lessons cancelled by a student will not be made up. You may miss **ONE** lesson during the semester. Any more absences will result in lowering the **final grade** by one letter per missed lesson (Ex: B to a C)

2) Lesson Preparation

*The Music Department requires applied music students to spend a **minimum** one hour per credit hour per day in lesson preparation (Mon.- Fri.).* Practicing an hour before your lesson is considered a warm-up, not lesson preparation. Also, week-end practice is strongly encouraged. Please allow the time that is needed to come into a lesson ready to play and to move on to other things. I expect all of us to manage our time wisely and to incorporate good practice habits. We will be in frequent discussion throughout the year on ways to practice more efficiently in order to achieve maximum results.

3) Recording Lessons

Please bring a cassette tape each week in order for us to tape your lesson. I will provide a recorder. A taped recording will serve as a useful aural reference to both musical and technical ideas shared in the last lesson that are sometimes forgotten as the week progresses.

4) Music/ Metronome

You are expected to purchase published copies of all music to be used in this studio. I will be glad to help you find the locations where you can purchase the music as well as suggest appropriate editions. Also, an inexpensive metronome must be purchased for use throughout the semester.

5) Recital Attendance

You are required to attend **THREE** concerts throughout the semester. You can pick up a list of concerts on and off campus in the office. **One must include a student recital.** Keep track of the programs and turn them into me at your last lesson.

***You are required to attend the ENTIRE recital and must adhere to the Honor Code policies. You must sign each program, thus stating you attended the full program.**

6) Piano Labs

Each student is required to attend two piano labs and must perform each time.

7) Performances

All music majors will be required to perform at least twice on Thursday afternoon departmental student recitals at 4:30. All minors are required to perform a minimum of one time. Beginners will play on the Beginner's Recital. (Date TBA) More advanced students have a choice to play on one of the Thursday afternoon student recitals.

8) Information

Please check your email frequently as well as the Piano Divisions bulletin board. You are responsible for keeping yourself informed concerning announcements related to this course.

9) Practice Rooms

Food and drink are not allowed in Tuthill Performance Hall, The Music Library, the practice rooms, or on studio pianos.

10) Final Exam

The final exam consists of a memorized performance before a faculty committee. **Applied Music exams are scheduled for reading day, Thursday, December 9th.** The student will sign up for a specific exam appointment with his/her committee. Majors will perform two selections, non-majors will perform one selection.

Any student who fails to take the final exam without making other arrangements well in advance with the examination coordinator, Professor David Ramsey, will be given a grade of I (Incomplete) in the course. The examination must be taken early in the next semester, the appropriate fee must be paid, and the final course grade will be lowered one complete letter.

V. COURSE GRADING

Average of weekly lesson grades	70%
Recital attendance	10%
Piano labs, recital performances	10%
Final performance exam	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Music majors and minors are required by the Music Department to attend a designated number of concerts each term. If the concert attendance requirement is not met, the grade in the student's principal applied music area is lowered by two full letter grades (A- to C-, etc.) Students should make sure they are in good standing regarding recital attendance by communicating with Professor Carole Blankenship, administrator of this requirement.

EVERY ASPECT OF THIS COURSE WILL BE VIEWED IN LIGHT OF THE HONOR CODE OF RHODES COLLEGE.

Note: The schedule and procedure in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstance.