RHODES COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT
COURSE SYLLABUS
MUSIC 160-05  CRN 10428
FALL SEMESTER 2004

Brian Ray (rayb@rhodes.edu)
Office: Hassell Hall 200. Hours by appointment
Phone: 843-3778 for messages. 755-2142 (Home)
Contact my home between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM only, except for emergencies. Leave
messages in my office mailbox labeled RAY in Hassell Hall 110

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course consists of weekly 45-minute piano lessons, three performance classes,
attendance at two designated music-related events, and listening assignments. The
content of the course will be individually designed for you and with you in terms of your
skills and goals. We will plan long-term and short-term goals in order to increase your
piano proficiency skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
You will be able to perform at a level commensurate with your experience.
You will be able to perform in several musical styles with appropriate
piano technique. You will be able to describe the logic behind these
particular piano techniques. You will be able to perform polished pieces
from memory for a public audience. You will be able to play scales,
arpeggios, and etudes appropriate to your level of experience and

CALENDAR
1. Weekly individual lessons---Studio 200, Hassell Hall, unless otherwise
   arranged. TBA.
2. Performance Classes: October 13, November 17, December 1. All at 5:00
   PM in Tuthill Performance Hall in Hassell Hall
3. Required attendance at following events:
   Brian Ray Faculty Piano Recital, Thursday, October 28, 8:00 PM, Tuthill
   Performance Hall
   AND
   One concert of your own choice, approved by me in advance, that
   prominently features classical or jazz acoustic piano in a solo,
   chamber, or ensemble setting. Be prepared to discuss the event
   with me in great detail. I can suggest events either on
   the Rhodes campus or in the Memphis area. You may also
discover and suggest events that may interest you.
4. Final Exam on Thursday, December 9 (Reading Day).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. LESSONS
   You must attend lessons. You must arrive on time, warmed-up, and ready
to play. I will make up any lessons that I miss for personal or professional reasons. If you must miss a lesson, contact me at home as soon as possible. If I have left for the day, call my studio number (843-3778) and leave a message. Lessons will be made up due to illness, emergency, or conflicts with school-sponsored activities (other than social). I require twenty-four hours notice of absence. Attend your lessons if you are at all able. You will receive an F for the week’s grade if you miss a lesson without prior notice.

2. LESSON PREPARATION
   The Music Department requires applied music students to spend one hour per credit hour per day (Mon.-Fri.) in lesson preparation---this is a total of five hours of practice per week. Practice rooms are located on the west end of Hassell Hall, first floor. No food or drink is permitted in practice rooms, Tuthill Performance Hall, Adams, Music Library, on studio pianos, or on other pianos in Hassell Hall.

3. MUSIC
   You are expected to purchase published copies of all music to be performed.

4. PERFORMANCE CLASSES AND RECITAL ATTENDANCE
   You will attend and perform in the performance classes. This is a valuable time to perform for your peers in a non-pressure environment. You will also attend two events that are listed above; it is important that you observe musicians in live performance situations. Absences and substitutions must be discussed and approved by me in advance. You must perform a memorized, polished piece for an audience at least once during the semester; this may be performed in one of our performance classes, a weekly Thursday afternoon Departmental Recital, or other mutually agreed-upon venues.

5. LISTENING
   You will listen to a minimum of two hours worth of recordings of standard solo piano literature, preferably with scores in hand. Chamber music that prominently features the piano, or art song recordings which feature outstanding pianists will also be acceptable. One hour is required before mid-term. You may choose the recordings, or I will help you select them. The Adams Music Library in the west end of Hassell Hall has many recordings and scores from which to choose, and you may listen there as well. You may also purchase your own recordings and listen to those in your own home. You will write down the names of pieces to which you have listened, and list the composers and performers.

6. DEPARTMENT RECITALS
   All music major are required to perform on the weekly departmental student recitals at least twice during the semester. Music minors are expected to perform at least once during the semester. Other students are also encouraged to perform on these recitals at least once during the term.

7. PIANO RECITALS
I encourage you to attend as many recitals with piano as possible. You may receive extra credit for recitals or piano concerto performances. Please let me know as you attend these events.

8. FINAL EXAMINATION
On Thursday, December 9, you must take a final examination administered by the music faculty. Non-majors will perform a single memorized and polished piece. You will have an exam time of five minutes. Majors whose primary instrument is piano will perform two memorized pieces in an exam time of approximately ten minutes. ALL performances will be on a polished concert level of playing and will be from memory. We will decide on the pieces for your final exam well in advance of the examination. The deadline for memorization of exam pieces is December 1. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the lowering of the semester grade by a half letter (A to A-, for example). Any student who fails to take the final examination on December 1 without making other arrangements well in advance with the examination coordinator, Prof. David Ramsey, and your instructor, will be given a grade of INCOMPLETE in the course. The examination must be taken early in the next semester, the appropriate fees must be paid, and the term grade will be lowered one complete letter (A to B, for example).

9. TERM FEE
The applied music fee for the term is $300, non-refundable after the first lesson is completed. Once the first lesson is taken, a student is liable for the entire semester whether the course is dropped or not.

10. COURSE GRADING
Average of weekly lesson grades 60%
Listening 10%
Attendance at performances and performance classes 10%
A memorized, polished public performance 10%
Final performance examination 10%

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, for example). Students should make certain that they are in good standing regarding recital attendance by communicating with the coordinator of recital attendance requirements. Students are welcome to discuss the grading process with me at any time during the semester.

Enrollment in this course acknowledges acceptance of the provisions of this syllabus subject to necessary changes in schedule or procedure due to extenuating circumstances. The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. Every aspect of the course will be viewed in light of the Honor Code of Rhodes College.