

# INDEPENDENT PIANO LESSONS SYLLABUS

PNO101X32 CID: 7127

CREDIT HRS:2

Class meeting time: TBA

Room Number: 328

Instructor's name: Ilonka Rus

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## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Wednesday 10:00am - Noon

TuThu 11:00am - 1:00pm

It is the responsibility of each student to make note of these office hours.

Students are required to play two pieces memorized, hands together for piano juries at the end of each semester.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course designed for undergraduate piano majors, earns two hours of credit per semester. In this course, the student is challenged with technic exercises, sight reading skills and learning methods. Repertoire is surveyed, prepared and coached individually. As the semester evolves, the student acquires many tools to help problem-solve in assimilating music scores, knowledge of repertoire is enhanced and individual technical needs are assessed and addressed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of the individual piano lessons course is to help each student improve their musical and technical piano skills. The student is trained to develop practicing skills necessary to further enhance the abilities nurture the sensitive art of music making. The student is challenged in all aspects of musicianship; to become more aware of the full musical score. The purpose of the course is to help the student fill gaps in earlier training. Ultimately, this course is designed to equip the student with the tools necessary to work in the professional arena upon graduation.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- The student will improve and enjoy the art of piano playing.
- The student will learn how to practice and learn music efficiently.
- The student will become equipped to function successfully in the professional music world.

**EXIT COMPETENCIES/REQUIREMENTS:**

Requirement for competency in completing the course in independent piano lessons is determined by the following criteria:

The student must achieve a grade of B- or above for each of the required four semesters. A grade of C for the final semester grade will result in the repetition of the course.

**GRADING CRITERIA and ABSENCE POLICY:**

The semester grade will be determined by the following ratio:

One-third of the semester grade will be based upon weekly attendance. Students should inform the professor in advance of reasons for necessary absences (medical, etc.) and failure to inform the professor may result in an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences are not permissible in MUS courses, and such absences may result in a lowering of the semester grade.

Two-thirds of the semester grade will be based upon effort exhibited in preparation of assignments; and weekly technical and musical progress.

There will be a final concert at the end of the semester with the piano students involved in this course. Attendance for the dress rehearsal and concert is **mandatory**. Failure to do so will be reflected upon the student's grade.

**MATERIALS:**

Assigned music is available in the Sam Houston if Music library or for private purchase from music dealers. A list of required texts will be distributed at the first class meeting.

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## **Student Syllabus Guidelines**

A more detailed description of the following *Student Syllabus Guidelines* may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

### **Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

### **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days**

Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

### **Students with Disabilities Policy**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

### **Visitors in the Classroom**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrars Office.

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### **Practice Expectations**

Upright pianos are located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the School of Music. These pianos are maintained regularly, and should be used by students, including those enrolled in these

courses. It is expected that students will practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day in preparation for class not 3 1/2 hours in one day, but 30 minutes each day, seven days a week. If a student is unable to master the skills and concepts as presented, he/she should do the following, in order:

Review his/her practice habits: 30 minutes every day, verifiable on the students practice record?

Review his/her practice goals; are they written out?

Are they specific?

Measurable

Attainable

Realistic

Timely

Schedule an appointment with the instructor for extra tutoring.

### **Questions???**

The course syllabus is much longer than in the past. You may have questions or concerns that were not addressed, or you may need clarification on an issue. Do the following:

Make a note of your question. Try to avoid bizarre hypothetical situations.

Ask or furthermore, schedule an appointment with your instructor for clarification.

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### **Verification Statement**

To verify that you have read this course syllabus on Blackboard, your instructor may ask you to print this page.

By signing this document, I verify that I have read and understood the course syllabus for this course as posted on Blackboard for this course.

Sign your name    Date

Print your name    Instructor

Course prefix, number, and section

