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MUS 430.01: Piano Methods and Materials I

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PIANO METHODS AND MATERIALS I
THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
FALL 2005
DR. CHRISTOPHER HAHN
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Required Materials

The Well-Tempered Keyboard Teacher
Marienne Uszler, Stewart Gordon, Scott McBride Smith

Clavier Magazine $9

Keyboard Companion (optional) $16
(Please make checks payable to Chris Hahn)

MTNA Membership $17
(Visit website at www.mtna.org)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an intensive and comprehensive presentation of the various aspects of the piano teaching professions, including a study of techniques and methods for teaching the beginning and intermediate student. A survey of various materials for teaching piano are examined with an emphasis on evaluation and critical analyses of integral elements necessary to achieve music literacy, keyboard musicianship, and comprehensive training.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This course will include assignments and activities relating to three primary sources of information, including the course text, review of established methods courses for piano instruction, and supplemental lectures and information provided by the instructor. Reading and research assignments will regularly be given, as well as exercises relating to specific areas of piano pedagogy.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Since the class meets only once weekly, it is extremely important that the student attend each session. Therefore, for each class missed without instructor approval at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled class time, the final course grade will be lowered a complete letter grade (e.g. A- to B-, B+ to C+, etc.) The only exception to this policy will be in an extreme circumstance out of the student’s control (e.g. medical emergency or family death) where written documentation will be required.

GRADING
The final course grade will be computed as follows:

- Class participation 10%
- In-class presentations 20%
- Lesson observations 10%
- Article & Book Reviews 20%
- Beginning Methods Project 10%
- Final Exam (take-home) 30%

**In–class Presentations**
Students will have projects assigned throughout the semester, either as an individual or a group presentation.

**Lesson Observations**
Students will be assigned to observe and analyze the teaching of faculty, off-campus independent music teachers, and/or high school music teachers.

**Article & Book Reviews**
Students will be required to research and find articles pertaining to various topics about music instruction and write a summary of the article. The student will also review one book per month and write a brief summary.

**Beginning Methods Project**
Students will analyze and compare beginning piano methods and review their strengths and weaknesses.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- MSMTA Convention, Billings, MT November 3-5, 2005
- MTNA National Convention, Austin, TX March 25-29, 2006