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MUSI 235.01: Intermediate Piano/Keyboard Skills III

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The University of Montana School of Music
Intermediate Piano in Class, MUSI 235, Section 01, T/Th 8:00-8:50am
Autumn Semester, 2017
Dr. Nancy Cooper
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Office hours available by appointment

Required Materials (available from the university bookstore):

Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 2, Second Edition by Lancaster & Renfrow
Piano Proficiency Examination Coursepack
Get America Singing...Again! Volume 1

Welcome to Intermediate Piano in Class, your second year of learning to play the piano comfortably and musically at the University of Montana! The following suggestions should help you to get the most out of the class, as well as to prepare you for the **Piano Proficiency Examination**. If you work diligently, you should be able to pass five portions of the proficiency exam by the end of this semester. *The outline of the Piano Proficiency Examination is printed on the first page of the coursepack.*

Objectives

The objective of the group piano program for non-keyboard majors at the University of Montana is to develop functional skills to enable students to cope with practical situations at the keyboard. In addition to learning repertoire and technique, we will address such topics as sight-reading, harmonization, accompanying, transposition and other creative activities.

Grading

- 25% **WEEK FIVE EXAM**—Scheduled during the fifth week of class
- 25% **WEEK TEN EXAM**—Scheduled during the tenth week of class
- 25% **FINAL EXAM**—Scheduled in two parts—part one during the last week of classes and heard by Dr. Hahn; part two will be two elements of the proficiency exam.
- 25% **DAILY WORK AND WEEKLY IN-CLASS QUIZZES**
(In-class quizzes will happen at the beginning of the Tuesday class of each week. Be certain you are present, on-time and prepared!)

Proficiency Exam Tests for this semester

- 1) **Scale test**—mid October—be able to play all major scales and the harmonic minor scales that begin on a white key. These may be played hands together or hands separate.
- 2) **Solo and Accompaniment Recital**—scheduled on Monday, November 21 in the evening. This is a “mini recital” typically held in Room 205. You will each play a solo repertoire piece and an accompaniment with a soloist.
- 3) **Two-hand vamping and Happy Birthday**—scheduled during Finals Week.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is of significant importance for making steady progress. Since all concepts are introduced as well as reinforced in class, you will want to make class attendance a priority. As incentive to attend, **more than three recorded absences, no matter the reason**, will result in a lowered grade. Please make every effort to notify the instructor in advance if you have a schedule conflict so assignments can be made up.

Practicing

You are expected to practice regularly between classes as this is the only way you will ensure progress. DO NOT TRY TO CRAM! Improvement at the piano requires training your fingers and muscles to work in new ways, as well as getting accustomed to reading piano music. Be sure to write down all assignments and practice each assignment thoroughly. A minimum of five practice sessions per week will be expected.

ANY STUDENT WHO RECEIVES A FINAL EXAM GRADE OF D OR F WILL BE ASSIGNED THAT GRADE FOR THE COURSE, REGARDLESS OF OTHER GRADES FOR THE SEMESTER.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321