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MUSI 236.02: Keyboard Skills IV

Steven K. Hesla

University of Montana - Missoula, steven.hesla@umontana.edu

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Spring Semester, 2016

Music 236, Section 2, Piano in Class – TR 10:10-11:00, Room 202 Music Building

Steven Hesla, Instructor, steven.hesla@umontana.edu 243-6055

Office Hours by Appointment

Required Texts:

Group Piano for Adults, Book 2, second edition

Lancaster & Renfrow

Alfred Music Publishers

Supplement (required): Coursepack for MUSI 235/236/218 at UC Bookstore

Course Objective: the advancement of functional piano skills to enable students to cope with practical situations at the keyboard. These skills include but are not limited to keyboard technique, music reading skills in multiple clefs, harmonization and transposition of melodies using primary as well as secondary harmonies, improvisational treatment of familiar melodies, along with rehearsal of solo and collaborative repertoire. Success in Music 236 should result in the completion of the **Piano Proficiency Assessment** by the end of Spring Semester, 2016.

Welcome to Music 236 – your opportunity to continue learning to play the piano comfortably and musically! The following suggestions should help you to get the most out of the class, as well as prepare well for the **Piano Proficiency Assessment**

1. **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. Because progress is often a direct reflection of daily work and class attendance, more than three recorded absences will result in a lowered grade. Please make every effort to notify the instructor in advance when you must miss class for any reason.

2. **Practice:** Playing the piano is an acquired skill. Be sure to write down all assignments and practice each assignment thoroughly. Improvement at the piano requires training your fingers and muscles in new ways, as well as becoming accustomed to reading piano music. Bring pencils, staff paper and a notebook to each class. Daily work is the key to success. A minimum of five practice sessions per week of 30-45 minutes each should ensure good progress. Excellent practice produces excellent results.

3. Practice rooms may be reserved in consultation with the Music Department office, Room 101. You may reserve up to one hour per day in any available “non-piano-major” practice room on the lower floor of the music building. Please make regular use of your scheduled time so that practice rooms don't go empty.

4. **Examinations:** In order to check your progress and assure that your work is on track, there will be several graded observations that are scheduled, and several "daily" quizzes. Your work will be evaluated according to the following formula:

Daily work, attendance, and weekly quizzes:	30%
Scheduled exams	40%
PPA (all remaining components)	<u>30%</u>
Total:	100%

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 http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

BEST WISHES for a productive and enjoyable semester!