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MUSI 333.01: Piano Practicum

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Course Description:
The Piano Practicum course is designed to provide the piano major at the University of Montana with supervised teaching experience in conjunction with the Piano Methods and Materials course sequence. The Piano Practicum course will run in tandem with the beginner group piano class that is being taught by Valerie Young on Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 in room 202.

Goals of the Course:
• Help the instructor develop their teaching style.
• Provide the instructor with practical teaching techniques and feedback through supervision and guidance via the group piano class format.
• Familiarize the instructor with commercially available pedagogical materials.

Required Texts:
• Student will be assigned specific repertoire, studies, technique, exercises, and other activities by the group class teacher, which you will then help to guide the student.

Attendance:
• The semester consists of a one-hour group class each week, and 12 (twelve) 30-minute lessons scheduled at a mutually agreeable time for student/parents and instructor. Regular attendance at all practicum meetings is mandatory for both student and instructor. **You must plan on attending the first three group classes to understand the concepts being taught, and the overall approach being used by the class teacher.**
• Sessions missed due to excused absences will be made up upon consultation with the instructor.
• Regular rescheduling of lesson times by instructor will affect final grade. Unexcused absence from a lesson will result in the student’s final grade being lowered by one letter grade.

Lesson Recordings and Lesson Reviews:
Keep a lesson review journal in a separate book dedicated for this purpose. A written lesson review will be turned in within 24 hours after each lesson (leave in the box outside of my door). You will describe strengths and weaknesses of your lesson plan, your teaching style, and possible suggestions for improvement. You may also comment on the student’s progress. Be fair and objective to yourself and the student! Please use the iPad in my office to recording at least one lesson per month, and I will make every effort to attend one lesson in person for observation.

Lesson Plans:
Your lesson will be based on what is covered during the group class (Thursdays from 3:00-4:00, Room 202). Any extra materials or activities should be discussed with Valerie.

Grading:
• The supervisor will provide a grade for the instructor based on:
  - Preparedness (75%)
  - Lesson recordings and lesson reviews (15%)
  - Lesson plans (10%)

Note: Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Office as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

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