

The University of Texas at Austin  
Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music

MUS 280M Group Piano Pedagogy  
Professor Martha F. Hilley

Syllabus – Fall 2015 Unique - 22060  
TTH 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. MRH 4.194

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Office Hours – posted in 3-week blocks on office bulletin board

## **Course Overview**

The course is designed to deal with group teaching on a variety of levels. Content will include teaching on the elementary level, intermediate level and adult beginner level. Technology is a major part of the course. You will become proficient with the Roland KR 577 digital piano, CD-2/CD-2E, RCS 848 Conference Controller and various software programs (PowerPoint, Finale, Audacity, etc.).

We will spend the first three weeks of classes on the methods and means of teaching group piano. These lecture demonstration classes will be participatory and provide the opportunity to become comfortable with the technology you will be using. Beginning Tuesday, September 22, you will spend three weeks observing me teach a class of university staff members. You will then team-teach this group of adults starting Tuesday, October 13 through Tuesday, November 24. Lectures will continue on Thursdays during this ten-week period.

You will create two PowerPoint "tutorials" for piano students in either applied or group environments - this is your choice. One tutorial will be for elementary level student(s) and the other for your choice of intermediate or advanced level. Due dates for presentations will be included in the description of these projects.

## **Grading Policy**

You will be graded on assigned projects, your team-teaching and class participation.

## **Attendance**

Your regular attendance is strongly encouraged. *There are no make-ups for work missed when you are not in class.* After three absences, an Absence/Failing Report will be filed electronically with the Dean's Office. Starting with the fourth absence, your final grade will be lowered one letter with each absence (taking note of plus-minus grading - an "A" would become a "B"; a "B+" would become a "C+" and etc.).

## **Required Text**

There is no required text for the course. The following materials will be supplied for review.

Albergo, Cathy, Reid Alexander and Marvin Blickenstaff. *Celebration Series: The Piano Odyssey – Handbook for Teachers*. Mississauga, Ontario: The Frederick Harris Music Co., Ltd., 2001.

- Bachus, Nancy. *Exploring Piano Classics, Levels 1-5, Repertoire*. Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc., 2012.
- Bachus, Nancy. *Exploring Piano Classics, Levels 1-5, Technique*. Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc., 2012.
- Baker-Jordan, Martha. *Practical Piano Pedagogy*. Miami: Warner Bros. Publications, 2003.
- Benzon, William. *Beethoven's Anvil: Music in Mind and Culture*. New York: Basic Books, 2001.
- Berenson, Gail, et al. *A Symposium for Pianists and Teachers: Strategies to Develop the Mind and Body for Optimal Performance*. Dayton, OH: Heritage Music Press, 2002.
- Booth, Eric. *The Music Teaching Artist's Bible: Becoming a Virtuoso Educator*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Brookfield, Stephen D. *Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1995.
- Coats, Sylvia. *Thinking As You Play: Teaching Piano in Individual and Group Lessons*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2006.
- Coyle, Daniel. *The Talent Code*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Darling, Edward, ed. *A Piano Teacher's Legacy*. Kingston, NJ: The Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy, 2005.
- Fisher, Christopher. *Teaching Piano in Groups*, Oxford University Press, 2010.
- Gordon, Stewart. *Etudes for Piano Teachers: Reflections on the Teacher's Art*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Hilley, Martha and Lynn Freeman Olson. *Piano for the Developing Musician, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition Concise*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Schirmer, 2006.
- Hilley, Martha and Lynn Freeman Olson. *Piano for Pleasure, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Concise*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 2002.
- Hinson, Maurice. *The Pianist's Dictionary*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2004.
- Jacobson, Jeanine M. *Professional Piano Teaching*. Los Angeles: Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., 2006.
- Jacobson, Jeanine M. *Professional Piano Teaching, Vol. 2*. Los Angeles: Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., 2015.
- Lancaster, E.L. and Kenon D. Renfro. *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, Los Angeles: Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.,
- Levitin, Daniel. *This Is Your Brain On Music*. London: Atlantic Books, 2006.
- Lyke, James, Tony Caramia, Reid Alexander and Geoffrey Haydon. *Keyboard Musicianship, Book One, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*, Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing Co., 2003.
- Lyke, James, Tony Caramia, Reid Alexander and Geoffrey Haydon. *Keyboard Musicianship, Book Two, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*, Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing Co., 2004.
- Mach, Elyse. *Contemporary Class Piano, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Magrath, Jane. *The Pianist's Guide to Teaching and Performing Literature*. Van Nuys, CA: Alfred Publishing Co., 1995.
- Pink, Daniel. *A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future*. New York: Penguin Group Inc. 2006.

Ristad, Eloise. *A Soprano on Her Head*. Real People Press. 1982.

Uszler, Marianne, Stewart Gordon and Scott McBride Smith. *The Well-Tempered Keyboard Teacher*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Schirmer Books, 2000.

Westney, William. *The Perfect Wrong Note: Learning to Trust Your Musical Self*. Cambridge: Amadeus Press, LLC, 2003.

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Week 1 – 08/26-28	Intro to the KR 577 Digital Piano
Week 2 – 08/31-09/04	KR 577 / Disks /
Week 3 – 09/07-11	<b>Labor Day Holiday</b> / KR 577 / RCS 848
Week 4 – 09/14-18	KR 577 / Observation of Staff Class
Week 5 – 09/21-25	KR 577 / CD-2e / Observation of Staff Class
Week 6 – 09/28-10/02	Audacity / Classroom Maestro / Observation of Staff Class
Week 7 – 10/05-09	Finale / PowerPoint / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 8 – 10/12-16	The Internet / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 9 – 10/19-23	Pre-School Age Students / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 10 – 10/26-30	RMM / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 11 – 11/02-06	Review of Literature / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 12 – 11/09-13	Review of Literature / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 13 – 11/16-20	Review of Literature / Team-Teaching of Staff Class
Week 14 – 11/23-27	PowerPoint Projects / <b>Thanksgiving</b>
Week 15 – 11/30-12/04	Towards Career Building / The Internet as a Resource
	<b>No Formal Final Examination for 280M</b>

## Emergency Evacuation

The following recommendations are from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/>:

Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.

Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.

In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors.

Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232-5050

Link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: [www.utexas.edu/emergency](http://www.utexas.edu/emergency)

*Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.*