

# CALO's: Music 176 – Piano Class I for the Beginner Student

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

A basic hands-on introduction to keyboard musicianship and proficiency within a group setting. Keyboard application skills include an introduction to music reading, rhythms, improvisation, technique, solo repertoire and group ensembles. This course is intended for the complete beginner or for students with little experience in piano.

### Keyboard application skills include:

- Sightreading: basic note reading (level 1) from the Grand Staff at sight
- Intervallic reading: using the Grand Staff and landmark locators
- Hand-eye Coordination: tapping rhythmic exercises with both hands
- Solo pieces: reading and performing solo repertoire with the score and for memory
- Group work: counting out rhythms in pairs and playing duets with partners
- An introduction to basic transposition of simple tunes
- An introduction to basic improvisatory skills
- Development of keyboard technique and finger dexterity:
  - Major and Minor penta-scales, hands together
  - Major and Minor chords, hands together
  - Chromatic scales in contrary motion - two octaves, hands together
  - Major and Minor cross-over hand Arpeggios

## SAMPLE ASSESSMENT FOR COURSE OUTCOMES CRITERIA

Keyboard application skills listed above will be assigned each class, and it is expected that the student prepare for these prior to the following session, or as assigned by the instructor.

Quizzes are given during the first session of the week and will count 50% towards your final grade. There will be approximately 6-7 playing “quizzes” throughout the quarter each worth ~7-8% towards your final grade.

The final exam is conducted in such a way that each student is allotted a time slot (~10 min.) to play through their exam. Testing will be conducted in the instructor’s office. Students must pass the final in order to pass the course.

15% of your final grade is determined by your attendance, participation, progress and attitude in the classroom. The instructor values each student in the class, and it is encouraged that students actively participate in live performances, engage in discussions, complete all assignments and contribute to the class as a whole.

Weekly Quizzes/Ensembles - 50%      Final Exam - 35%      Progress & Attitude - 15%

Final grades are based on the average percentage you have accumulated from the above areas.

- 87-100% = A Superior achievement (GPA = 3.6-4.0)  
74-85% = B Excellent, above average achievement (GPA = 2.5-3.5)  
60-72% = C Good, Average achievement (GPA = 1.5-2.4)  
55-59% = D Below average, minimum achievement (GPA = 1.0-1.4)  
0-54% = F Unacceptable (GPA = 0.0-0.9)