

MUE 212
Advanced Keyboard Musicianship I
Section 1, MW 11:15-12:10

Instructor: Robert Holm
P.A.C. #1119, 460 - 6237
Office Hours: Tuesday, 1-2, 3-3:30, Wednesday, 12-2:30, Thursday 12-2:30
Fall 2008

Text: Handouts and sight-reading materials will be provided by the instructor.

Course Description

Advanced Keyboard Skills is a class designed for the pianist at the concentration or performance level. The course consists of a methodological approach to practicing scales, arpeggios, and chord progressions and will also include transposition, lead sheets and collaborative sight-reading. In addition, students will learn to utilize the university piano lab. Successful completion of four semesters of Advanced Keyboard Skills is a requirement for the piano major or concentration.

Course Objectives

Practice various piano techniques	Major and minor scales
Practice in an ensemble setting	Triadic and Seventh-chord arpeggios
Sight-read regularly	Blocked chord arpeggios
Improvisation	Realize lead sheets

Grading and Class Participation

Four exams and class participation will determine the final grade:

Exam 1	200 points
Exam 2	200 points
Exam 3	200 points
Final	300 points
<u>Class participation</u>	<u>300 points</u> (30 classes X 10 pts/class)
Total	1200 points

No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences; however 15 bonus points will be awarded at the first class period. Ten class participation points are possible each class period, five for attendance and five for merit. Homework assignments will be given at each class period and it is the responsibility of the student to prepare any missed assignments for the next class period. It is recommended that students practice these skills at least 30 minutes per day, six days a week. Practice pianos are located in the 12 practice rooms within Laidlaw Performing Arts Center.

The three exams are scheduled for September 10, October 6, and October 29. The final exam is scheduled for December 1 at 11:15 a.m. Failure to take an exam on the scheduled date (except in extraordinary circumstances) will result in one lowered test grade per workday until the exam is made up. Exams may be taken earlier by appointment..

A straight grading scale will be used:	1080 – 1200	A, excellent
	960 -1079	B, good
	840 – 959	C, fair
	720 - 839	D, poor

Tentative Schedule

Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, this schedule may be modified with appropriate advance notice given during class. Regular attendance will ensure that you will be informed of any changes made in the semester schedule.

Day	Date	Topics Covered
1	Aug 18	Intro; Syllabus; White-note scales
2	Aug 20	Circle of 5ths; major and harmonic minor scales
3	Aug 25	Drawing off technique, sight reading: a habit
4	Aug 27	Kicking technique
5	Sept 3	Scale work by groupings
6	Sept 8	Review
7	Sept 10	Exam #1
8	Sept 15	Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb scales
9	Sept 17	f#, c#, g# scales
10	Sept 22	bb, eb scales; 4 basic triads + inversions
11	Sept 24	White-note major arpeggios
12	Sept 29	White-note minor arpeggios
13	Oct 1	Review
14	Oct 6	Exam #2
15	Oct 8	4 basic triads with octave + inversions
16	Oct 13	5 common 7 th chords
17	Oct 15	Major-minor 7 th chord arpeggios
18	Oct 20	Other 7 th chord arpeggios
19	Oct 22	Blocked chord exercises
20	Oct 27	Review
21	Oct 29	Exam #3
22	Nov 3	Reading a lead sheet
23	Nov 5	2's, sus's, 6's
24	Nov 10	9's, 11's, 13's
25	Nov 12	Piano style
26	Nov 17	Boom-chick (chunk) style
27	Nov 19	scale, arpeggio, blocked chord review
28	Nov 24	Review for Final exam; review sight reading techniques
29	Dec 1	Final Exam

OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

There is no food or drink allowed in the piano lab (LPAC 1120).
All cell phones and beepers must remain off during class hours.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with bona fide disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. If a student has a disability that qualifies him/her for academic accommodations, please notify the instructor and provide certification from the Office of Special Student Services, which is located in the Student Center, Room 270, Phone 460-7212. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations.

STATEMENT REGARDING CHANGES IN COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, it may be necessary to modify the above requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. For example, the number and frequency of exams may be changed, or the number and sequence of assignments. In either of these cases, adequate notification will be given in writing and conform to the spirit of policy statement 6.3.1 of the University of South Alabama Faculty Handbook.