IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSIC 127: Class Piano 1
Fall 2015
Professor Bronson

E-mail: jbronson@iastate.edu   Office: Music Hall 51
Office Hours: by appointment

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
After completing MUS 127, non-piano music majors will be able to:
❖ Play the piano with proper piano technique.
❖ Apply music theory to the piano by playing scales, arpeggios, and chord progressions.
❖ Display the skills necessary to sight-read, and practice and perform piano repertoire.
❖ Harmonize and transpose music.
❖ Create and improvise accompaniments reading lead sheets.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
2. Notebook and Manuscript paper
3. Pencils (only write on book and music with a pencil)
4. Metronome

GRADING:
5% CLASS PARTICIPATION
30% FIVE-WEEK EXAM   M/W Class: 9/21 & 9/23   T/R Classes: 9/22 & 9/24
30% TEN-WEEK EXAM     M/W Class: 10/26 & 10/28  T/R Classes: 10/27 & 10/29
35% FINAL EXAM: 127A: 12/17 9:45-11:45; 127B: 12/16 9:45-11:45; 127C: 12/14 12:00-2:00

❖ Expect frequent announced and unannounced quizzes throughout the semester, including during Dead Week. Quiz grades will be averaged together and factored into the current exam period.
❖ Students are required to be present at the University scheduled final exam. Plan juries, appointments, and travel plans accordingly.
❖ A minimum grade of a C- (70%) must be earned in order to pass the course.
❖ **Any student whose final exam grade is a D or F (69% and lower) will be assigned that grade for the course, regardless of other grades for the semester.**
PRACTICE:
- Daily effective practice is vital in order to be successful in class piano. Students should practice a minimum of 30-45 minutes, 5-6 days per week.
- Practice on an acoustic piano and if necessary on an electronic piano with a full keyboard and weighted keys.
- Practice strategies and techniques will be frequently discussed in class.

CLASS PIANO RECITAL:
Students will prepare 1 piano piece of their choice, with a maximum length of 2 minutes, to perform for other class piano students on Tuesday November 10, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Recital Hall. This is a required event and students will earn a final exam repertoire grade.

ATTENDANCE:
- Your attendance is expected at all classes. Written documentation for excused absences (letters of travel from ensemble directors, etc.) must be received no later than two class periods following the absence. No documentation will be accepted once finals have begun. If you do miss for an excused reason, contact Professor Bronson within 1 day of your absence for it to be counted as excused.
- Prolonged absences due to illness (more than 2 class periods) will only be excused with documentation from a doctor.
- Quizzes and exams will not be made up for an unexcused absence. In the case of an excused absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact Professor Bronson to make-up the missed quiz or exam by the next class period.
- If you do miss class, you are responsible for obtaining all class notes, handouts, etc. from your classmates and by consulting Blackboard Learn.
- Two unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade by one increment (i.e. A- to B+), four unexcused absences will lower your final grade by two increments, and six unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. Two tardies equal one unexcused absence.

CLASS PIANO ENROLLMENT
- Students are required to maintain continuous enrollment in class piano until Music 228 (level 4) is passed.
- Students who fail the course will not be guaranteed a space in the repetition of the class in subsequent semesters.
- Music 228 must be completed before passing the music Continuation Exam.
BLACKBOARD LEARN AND E-MAIL:
❖ Classroom assignments, SMART Board files, grades, exam and quiz information, and other important announcements will frequently be posted on Blackboard Learn and/or sent to students’ Iowa State University e-mail address.
❖ Students are responsible for checking both locations regularly.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:
❖ No food or drinks are allowed in the piano lab. Bottles with lids may be kept at the side of the room away from the pianos.
❖ Only keep your required materials at your piano. Other materials should be kept away from your piano and out of the aisles.
❖ Cell phones and other electronic devices should only be used during class for recording class piano announcements and notes.
❖ If you are ill, please wipe your piano, headset, and bench with a disinfecting wipe at the end of class.
❖ At the end of every class, place headsets on hook underneath piano, turn off piano, and place bench underneath piano.

ACCOMMODATIONS:
If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with Professor Bronson as soon as possible. Please request that a Student Disability Resources staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodations you will need. 1076 Student Services Building, 515-294-7220.