

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSIC 127: Class Piano 1
Fall 2020

Dr. Janci Bronson

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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, & chord progressions.
- ❖ Display the skills necessary to sight-read, & practice & perform piano repertoire.
- ❖ Harmonize & transpose music.
- ❖ Create & improvise accompaniments reading lead sheets.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults*, Bk. 1, 2nd Edition
2. Notebook & Manuscript paper
3. Pencils (only write on book & music with a pencil)
4. Metronome

GRADING:

5% **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** stay on task & participate in class discussions.

30% **5-WEEK EXAM: Thursday September 10 & Tuesday September 15**

30% **10-WEEK EXAM: Thursday October 15 & Tuesday October 20**

35% **FINAL EXAM:**

MUS 127-1 (T/R 11:00 class): Tuesday November 24, 9:45-11:45 a.m.

MUS 127-2 (T/R 10:00 class): Saturday November 21, 9:45-11:45 a.m.

- ❖ Expect frequent announced & unannounced quizzes throughout the semester, including during Dead Week. Quiz grades will be averaged together & factored into the current exam period.
- ❖ Students are required to be present at the University scheduled final exam. Plan juries, appointments, & 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% & lower) will be assigned that grade for the course, regardless of other grades for the semester. (The final exam serves as the proficiency test for the semester & must be passed in order to advance to the next level.)**

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/or an electronic piano with a full keyboard & weighted keys.
- ❖ *Update for Fall 2020: If ISU decides all classes must be taught online, contact Dr. Bronson about loaning an electronic piano from ISU for use at the student's home. (14 pianos are available)*
- ❖ Practice strategies & techniques will be frequently discussed in class.

PIANO LAB PRACTICE & PIANO TUTORS:

The piano lab will be open twice weekly for additional individual practice and/or assistance from a qualified music education major who has completed the class piano sequence. *The last 15-20 minutes of each session will be reserved for students to perform on the grand piano for one another.* This will allow students to gain experience playing on a grand piano and to gain comfort performing for others.

Fall 2020 piano tutor: Cameron Mitchell, csm1@iastate.edu

Tutoring days & times:

- **Tuesday 2:00-3:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday 3:10-4:10 p.m.**
- If the set tutoring times do not work, you may contact the tutor to set up a different time to meet within Music Hall or to schedule a virtual meeting for assistance.
- *Maximum of 12 students in the piano lab at a time.*

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 your professor 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 & 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 Dr. 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 & by consulting Canvas.
- ❖ One unexcused absence will not affect your final grade. **However, each subsequent absence will lower your final grade by one increment (i.e. A- to B+). 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.

CANVAS & E-MAIL:

- ❖ Classroom assignments, Smart Board files, grades, exam & quiz information, & other important announcements will frequently be posted on Canvas &/or sent to students' Iowa State University e-mail address.
- ❖ Students are responsible for checking both locations regularly.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- ❖ Students are required to use hand sanitizer before touching their piano station area.
- ❖ 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 & out of the aisles.
- ❖ Cell phones & other electronic devices should only be used during class for recording class piano announcements & notes.
- ❖ At the end of every class, students are required to wipe down their keys with the ISU-provided disinfecting wipes. Leave the cover off the keys to allow the keys to adequately dry.
- ❖ At the end of every class, place headsets on hook underneath piano, turn off piano, & place bench underneath piano.

COVID-19 HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Students are responsible for abiding by the university's [COVID-19 health and safety expectations](#). All students attending this class in-person are required to follow university [policy](#) regarding health, safety, and face coverings:

- wear a cloth face covering in all university classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other in-person instructional settings and learning spaces. Cloth face coverings are additionally required to be worn indoors in all university buildings, and outdoors when other people are or may be present where physical distancing of at least 6 feet from others is not possible. Students with a documented health or medical condition that prevents them from wearing a cloth face covering should consult with [Student Accessibility Services](#) in the Dean of Students Office.
- ensure that the cloth face covering completely covers the nose and mouth and fits snugly against the side of the face.
- practice physical distancing to the extent possible.
- assist in maintaining a clean and sanitary environment.
- not attend class if you are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- not attend class if you have been told to self-isolate or quarantine by a health official.
- follow the instructor's guidance with respect to these requirements. Failure to comply constitutes disruptive classroom conduct. Faculty and teaching assistants have the

authority to deny a non-compliant student entry into a classroom, laboratory, studio, conference room, office, or other learning space.

These requirements extend outside of scheduled class time, including coursework in laboratories, studios, and other learning spaces, and to field trips. These requirements may be revised by the university at any time during the semester.

In accordance with university policy, **instructors may use a face shield while they are teaching as long as they are able to maintain 8 feet of physical distance between themselves and students during the entire instructional period.** Some form of face covering must be worn at all times in learning spaces regardless of the amount of physical distancing.

Faculty may refer matters of non-compliance to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action, which can include restrictions on access to, or use of, university facilities; removal from university housing; required transition to remote-only instruction; involuntary disenrollment from one or more in-person courses; and other such measures as necessary to promote the health and safety of campus.

It is important for students to recognize their responsibility in promoting the health and safety of the Iowa State University community, through actions both on- and off-campus.

The university's faculty asks that you personally demonstrate a commitment to our [Cyclones Care campaign](#). Iowa State University's faculty support the Cyclones Care campaign and ask you personally to demonstrate a commitment to our campaign. Your dedication and contribution to the campaign will also protect your family, classmates, and friends, as well as their friends and families. Our best opportunity for a successful fall semester with in-person learning and extramural activities requires all of us to collaborate and fully participate in the Cyclones Care campaign.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. Students requesting accommodations for a documented disability are required to work directly with staff in Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to establish eligibility and learn about related processes before accommodations will be identified. After eligibility is established, SAS staff will create and issue a Notification Letter for each course listing approved reasonable accommodations. This document will be made available to the student and instructor either electronically or in hard-copy every semester. Students and instructors are encouraged to review contents of the Notification Letters as early in the semester as possible to identify a specific, timely plan to deliver/receive the indicated accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are not retroactive in nature and are not intended to be an unfair advantage. Additional information or assistance is available online at www.sas.dso.iastate.edu, by contacting SAS staff by email at accessibility@iastate.edu, or by calling 515-294-7220. Student Accessibility Services is a unit in the Dean of Students Office located at 1076 Student Services Building.