Course Syllabus

Basic Musicianship

MUSIC 105

Music Hall 024, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:10–3:00pm
Music Hall 034, Wednesdays 2:10–3:00pm

Instructors

Dr. Gregory Oakes

goakes@iastate.edu
Music Hall 215
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00am and by appointment

Dr. Janci Bronson

jbronson@iastate.edu
Music Hall 051
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

Through this course, the student will become familiar with the basic elements of musical notation, terminology, and structure. The student will understand the fundamentals of pitch, rhythm, meter, and harmony. The goal of the course is to create a strong basis of general musical familiarity and conversance through understanding the structure of music and putting it into practical application by playing it on the piano.

Learning Outcomes

Theory
By the end of the term, students will demonstrate functional fluency in

- Rhythm
- Scales
- Key signatures
- Basic stylistic elements of music

Students will demonstrate their achievement both through an original composition and a final exam at the end of the term.

Piano

- Play the piano with proper piano technique.
- Apply music theory to the piano by playing scales, chords, and arpeggios.
- Display the skills necessary to sight-read, and practice & perform piano repertoire.
- Read chord lead sheets to create accompaniments.

Students will demonstrate their achievement through two playing exams and a final exam at the end of the term.

Supplies

White, Gary C. *Music First.* Available at the Campus Bookstore.
Alfred’s Piano 101, Book 1
Bastien Music Flashcards
Blank staff paper (available to print from [www.blanksheetmusic.net](https://www.blanksheetmusic.net))
Notebook
Pencils
Metronome ([MetronomeOnline.com](https://www.metronomeonline.com/join/))

Communication

Students must obtain an e-mail account and check it regularly. By default, the university-assigned e-mail address will be the one used. Weekly classroom assignments, SMART Board files, grades, exam and quiz information, and other important announcements will frequently be posted on Canvas and/or sent to students’ Iowa State University e-mail address. Students are responsible for all included content by checking both locations regularly.
Practice

- Daily effective practice is vital in order to be successful in class piano
- Students should practice a minimum of 20-30 minutes, 5 days per week
- Frequent shorter practice sessions throughout the week are more beneficial than a few large blocks of practice time for your technical and musical development
- Practice on an acoustic piano and if necessary on an electronic piano with a full keyboard and weighted keys
- Students may sign up to reserve a Music Hall practice room with Ms. Sue Henze in the music office beginning the first Monday of the semester.

Piano Tutors

Weekly piano tutoring within the piano lab will be offered by qualified music education majors who have completed the music major class piano sequence. If the following day/times do not work, you may contact the tutors to set up a different day/time to meet within Music Hall for tutoring.

Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m.: Zach Fisher (zwfisher@iastate.edu)
Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 p.m.: Tony Dam (tonyhdam@iastate.edu)

Classroom Policies

- No food or drinks are allowed in the piano lab.
- Keep only 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 reading electronic course materials and taking 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.

Assessment

Final grades will consist of
Theory Portion (60% of final grade)
20% Homework—timeliness and accuracy.
25% Theory Mid-Term Exam. Questions may involve material from the text and classes.
20% Final Composition Project
35% Theory Final Exam

Piano Portion (30% of final grade)
33% Piano Exam 1
33% Piano Exam 2
34% Piano Final Exam

Attendance (10% of final grade)
Participating in class discussions & staying on task. Your attendance is expected at all classes. Written documentation for excused absences 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 the professor as soon as possible. One unexcused absence will not count against your grade. Each subsequent unexcused absence will lower your grade for that portion (theory or piano) by one grade increment (i.e. A- to B+). 2 tardies equal 1 unexcused absence. 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 the professor and make arrangements to make up missed work. If you do miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining all class notes, handouts, etc. from your classmates and by consulting Canvas. Any assignments turned in late will be marked down one full letter grade for each day past the due date.

The following percentage scale will determine grades for the class:
93%–100% A
90%–92% A–
87%–89% B+
83%–86% B
80%–82% B–
77%–79% C+
73%–76% C
70%–72% C–
67%–69% D+
63%–66% D
60%–62% D–
0%–59% F

Disability Statement
Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. All students requesting accommodations are required to meet with staff in Student Disability Resources (SDR) to establish eligibility. A Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form will be provided to eligible students. The provision of reasonable accommodations in this course will be arranged after timely delivery of the SAAR form to the instructor. Students are encouraged to deliver completed SAAR forms as early in the semester as possible. SDR, a unit in the Dean of Students Office, is located in room 1076, Student Services Building or online at [www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/](http://www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/). Contact SDR by e-mail at disabilityresources@iastate.edu or by phone at 515.294.7220 for additional information.

### Course Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jan 9, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104479&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Introduction, Chapter 1: Pitch" /> (2:10pm to 3pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Jan 11, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/491895" alt="Chapter 1 Homework" /> due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Jan 16, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104483&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Chapter 2: Rhythm" /> (2:10pm to 3pm)</td>
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<td>Thu Jan 18, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/491896" alt="Chapter 2 Homework" /> due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Jan 23, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104485&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Chapter 3: Simple Meter" /> (2:10pm to 3pm)</td>
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<td>Thu Jan 25, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/491897" alt="Chapter 4 Homework" /> due by 2:10pm</td>
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https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/syllabus
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Due Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jan 30, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Major Scales/Major Keys</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 1, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Homework</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Feb 6, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 7: Minor Scales/Minor Keys</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Feb 7, 2018</td>
<td>Piano Exam #1</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 8, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 6 Homework</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Feb 13, 2018</td>
<td>Key Signatures</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 15, 2018</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 22, 2018</td>
<td>Composition Melody</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Feb 20, 2018</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 22, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Intervals</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Feb 27, 2018</td>
<td>Chapter 9: Chords</td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapter 8 Homework</td>
<td>due by 2:10pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harmonization</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Thu Mar 1, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/492552" alt="Chapter 9 Homework" /></td>
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<td>Tue Mar 6, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/492564" alt="Chord Progression" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td>Thu Mar 8, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104494&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Planning Melody and Harmony Together" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Mar 20, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104495&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Chapter 10: The Harmonic System" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/492418" alt="First Draft of Composition" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td>Wed Mar 21, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/493380" alt="Piano Exam #2" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td>Thu Mar 22, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/492554" alt="Chapter 10 Homework" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td>Tue Mar 27, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104496&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Revising and Rewriting Compositions" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td>Tue Apr 3, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104497&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Modifying Melodies and Harmonies for Better Compositions" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Apr 10, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104498&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Continue Composition Revisions" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue Apr 17, 2018</td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104502&amp;include_contexts=course_48176" alt="Class Performance of Compositions" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td><img src="https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/492427" alt="Composition Final Version" /></td>
<td>2:10pm to 3pm</td>
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Tue Apr 24, 2018

Review
(https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104500&include_contexts=course_48176)

2:10pm to 3pm

Wed Apr 25, 2018

Piano Final Exam
(https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/493381)
due by 2:10pm

Thu Apr 26, 2018

Review
(https://canvas.iastate.edu/calendar?event_id=104501&include_contexts=course_48176)

2:10pm to 3pm

Thu May 3, 2018

Theory Final Exam
(https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/494487)
due by 7:30am

Roll Call Attendance
(https://canvas.iastate.edu/courses/48176/assignments/493978)