Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Music
Class Piano 136

Class Location: Music Building 228
Instructor: Libby Vanatta Email: libby.vanatta@gmail.com
Office: Music Building 221 Phone: 903-886-5286
*If class is taught by the TA, contact information will be given at first class meeting.

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.)

Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
  Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
  Texas A&M University-Commerce
  Gee Library, Room 132
  Phone: 903-886-5150 or 903-886-5835
  Fax: 903-468-8148
  Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

University Mission Statement
Texas A&M University-Commerce nurtures and educates for success through access to academic, research, and service programs of high quality.

Mission Statement
The Music Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensemble to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

Required Textbook
The required text is Alfred’s Group Piano for Adults, Bk. 1 or 2 (2nd ed.) by Lancaster & Renfrow. The text book is required for ALL classes. Forgotten books will be 5 points deducted from your final grade for each incident.
Required Practice
Students are expected to practice daily. Expect to practice a minimum of thirty minutes every day. It is almost impossible to “cram” at the last minute and pass a piano exam. You are not only expected to play the elements of your exam well, but to do so in a performance setting. Daily preparation is the only way to insure that your nerves do not get the best of you!

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon the completion of the Class Piano Level A the student will be able to:
1) Play all major scales one octave, hands together, at a steady tempo
2) Play all major chord progressions with inversions: I-IV-I-V7-I
3) Harmonize and transpose melodies using block chord, broken chord, and arpeggiated accompaniment patterns.
4) Perform a two-handed accompaniment to a given melody.
5) Perform a prepared piece, using correct fingering, hand position, pedal (if applicable) and demonstrating appropriate development of personal musicianship.

Grading
There will be four exams in the semester:
Exam 1 200 points
Exam 2 - Midterm 200 points
Exam 3 200 points
Exam 4 - Final 400 points

Students MUST pass the final exam in order to pass the class.
A=1000-900   B= 899-800   C= 799-700   D= 699-600   F= 599-0

Attendance
Attendance is compulsory. Only two absences will be allowed; after that, each absence will result in the deduction of 50 points from your semester grade. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course after four absences. Repeated lateness (after two) for class will be penalized by lowering your final grade by 5 points for each tardy. Students leaving the classroom before class is dismissed will receive an absence for that day. You must be in attendance for all exams. Missed exams will be counted as failures, and no make-ups will be allowed.

NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED IN THE PIANO LAB AT ANY TIME!