Texas A&M University – Commerce  
Department of Music  
Applied Piano MUS 351

Instructor: Libby Vanatta  
Email: libby.vanatta@gmail.com
Office: Music Building 221  
Phone: 903-886-5286 office  
601-819-0139 cell

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 TAMU-C 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.

Grading
Attendance and preparation 400 pts  
Midterm and Jury 600 pts  
A=1000-900  B= 899-800  C= 799-700  D= 699-600  F= 599-0

The midterm and jury serve as the upper division proficiency exam. You must pass the exam in order to complete the minimum piano requirements for your degree.
Required Music Purchases
At our first lesson, we will discuss which music books I want you to purchase. I expect you to purchase the books immediately and have them within two weeks. I will provide photocopies of technical exercises, harmonization examples, and accompaniments.

Required Practice
Students are expected to practice daily. Expect to practice a minimum of forty-five minutes to one hour every day. It is impossible to “cram” and pass the proficiency exam. You are not only expected to play the elements of your exam well, but to do so in a performance setting in front of multiple jurists who will all grade you. Daily preparation is the only way to insure that your nerves do not get the best of you!

Student Learning Outcomes

MIDTERM EXAM
1) Play a descending vocalization accompaniment in every major key at the tempo of quarter note equals 76.
2) Play a four-part chorale at a reasonable tempo.
3) Play the accompaniment to a standard class 3 solo at performance tempo.
4) Play at a forte dynamic every possible combination of any two parts from a representative piece from the choral repertoire given to the student one week in advance of exam.

FINAL EXAM - JURY
1) Play all minor scales in two octaves, hands together, with the correct fingering and at the tempo of quarter note equals 76.
2) Play all minor chord progressions (i-iv-i-V7-i) including inversions with good fingering in half notes and at the tempo of quarter note equals 76.
3) Play a piece at the equivalent level of Snell book 4 or 5 at performance tempo.
4) Play at a forte dynamic every possible combination of any two parts from a representative piece from the choral repertoire given to the student one week in advance of exam.
5) Play the accompaniment to a choral piece at performance tempo.

Attendance
Students are expected to attend all lessons and studio classes scheduled by the instructor. The student will have one 30 minute lesson a week. Only one absence is allowed; after that, each absence will lower your final grade by 50 points. I reserve the right to drop a student from the course after four absences. Repeated tardiness (after two) will lower your final grade by 5 points for each. If you do not bring the necessary materials to your lesson, that lesson will be counted as tardy.

Lack of preparation is not an adequate excuse for rescheduling a lesson. Lessons will only be rescheduled in the case of a medical excuse or university sponsored trip if I am notified in advance of the absence. Understand that you must plan your week appropriately to complete your practice and come prepared to your lesson.