Applied Keyboard Lesson Policies

(Burkett)

Syllabus [see separate handout]

Goals/Objectives

1. To improve performance skills
   A. To improve technique through the study of scales, technical exercises, and literature appropriate to the student's level of expertise
   B. To improve musicality by discussion and demonstration of literature appropriate to the student's level of understanding
2. To broaden the student's knowledge of repertoire for the instrument through the study of literature drawn from different genres and historical eras
3. [Piano] To help students acquire skills useful in their future professional work. These might include (depending on the student's emphasis):
   A. the ability to improvise simple accompaniments to melodies
   B. the ability to perform accompaniments for solo vocal literature or choral repertoire
   C. the ability to play simple vocalization patterns to "warm-up" a choir
   D. the ability to rehearsal choral music by playing the parts (2 at a time)
   E. the ability to sightread
4. [Organ] To increase the student's understanding of registration by discussion and performance of literature representative of the major schools of organ literature and organ building

Grading

A student's final grade will be based upon a somewhat less than scientific mix* of the following factors:

1. attendance
2. amount and quality of practice
3. progress
4. quality of performance at jury

*While more detail regarding the above factors could be spelled out, my thirty plus years of teaching experience suggests to me that little would be gained in the accuracy or fairness of evaluations. In my opinion, grading is really more of an art than a science. The very word "quality" defies precise definition, and yet, as Robert Pirsig observed (confer *The Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*), everyone intuitively knows what quality is.

Dropping

A student who drops prior to the deadline will receive a grade of DP.