



## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- 1) Develop a teaching philosophy that outlines objectives and procedures applicable to private piano instruction.
- 2) Broaden knowledge of teaching techniques suitable for use in the private piano lesson for students of all ages.
- 3) Assess the different methods available for teaching beginning through intermediate level piano students.
- 4) Become familiar with the standard teaching repertoire for beginning through intermediate level piano students.
- 5) Develop teaching strategies for the instruction of sight-reading, harmonization, transposition, memorization, and other necessary skills.
- 6) Identify quality teaching by master teachers through observation.

## Grading

Readings and assignments	400 points	40%
Class Portfolio	100 points	10%
Practicum Project	100 points	10%
Final Project	200 points	20%
Exams - mid-term & final	200 points	20%

A=1000-900   B= 899-800   C= 799-700   D= 699-600   F= 599-0

## Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and events as required by the instructor. Failure to attend mandatory events will result in the deduction of one letter grade from your semester grade. **Only one absence 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. Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class as long as documentation is provided. If you do not bring books and materials to class, you will be counted as absent.

## Readings and Assignments

For every class meeting, you will be expected to complete the assigned readings and homework. Please refer to the tentative schedule for a list of assignments and deadlines.

## Class Portfolio

At the end of the semester, you will turn in a portfolio (binder) that includes all assignments, notes, materials, observation notes, and handouts used in this course. This will become a practical reference material for you once you start your teaching career. The portfolio is due on the day of the final exam.

## **Teaching Demonstrations**

During the semester, you will be required to prepare teaching demonstrations of two different repertoire pieces from each period of music appropriate for the beginning through intermediate level student. On the day of the demonstrations, I will choose which of the two pieces you have prepared to be presented to the class. The teaching demonstrations should be approximately 10 minutes in length and include the following:

- Performance of the selected pieces
- Discussion of the pedagogy and musical elements found in the piece
- Imagery or adjectives that describe the piece, suitable for working with students of different ages
- A list of at least ten other pieces from the same style period and level that address similar musical and pedagogical skills
- A handout that includes a copy of the selected piece and a chart that includes the information presented

## **Practicum Project – observations and evaluations of piano teaching**

This assignment is valuable to receive immediate feedback of your teaching and your effectiveness as a teacher as well as to observe effective teachers working with students. Refer to the tentative schedule for deadlines and scheduling parameters. The project consists of two parts:

- Each student will be required to teach one private lesson, two weeks in a row, that I will observe on campus of a non-collegiate student. During the next lesson of this student, you will observe me teaching for half of the lesson time. There is no requirement as to the level and age of the student. The observations must be completed by Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Scheduling of the lessons to be observed should be done as soon as possible in the semester.
- Each student will be required to travel to observe two lessons taught by a professional teacher working in the Dallas area. Refer to the list of approved teachers and protocol. These observations must be completed by Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **Final Project**

By the end of the semester, you will design a method series for an average age beginning piano student. In order to complete this project, you will need to use your acquired knowledge of available beginning methods that you will be reviewing in class. As you review the methods throughout the semester, evaluate the pros and cons of each and assess how you would improve the content and its delivery. The final project is due on the day of the final exam.