Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Music
Applied Piano
Spring 2015

Dr. Luis Sanchez
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Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8 to 10:00 am
Class Times: Lesson times will be arranged with each student individually.

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, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu.

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the completion of the semester, the student should be able to:

1. Learn and perform accurately at least two pieces from different style periods, a contrapuntal work and an etude.

2. Perform from memory two of the works studied in the semester in studio class and/or studio recital.
3. Apply a healthy approach to the instrument in practice and performance.
4. Play selected scales, arpeggios, chord progressions, exercises, and etudes.
5. Perform from memorize selected works for juries.

Drop Date

If you need to drop this course without penalty, please refer to the current academic calendar. Be aware that your scholarship and/or degree requirements specify a certain number of applied lesson credits. Dropping this course may ultimately affect your scholarship disbursement and/or graduation date.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to attend all required classes and events. Failure to attend mandatory events will result in the deduction of one letter grade from your semester grade. **Only 1 absence will be allowed**; after that, each absence will result in the deduction of 10 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 also be penalized by lowering your final grade by 5 points for each tardy. Medical excuses and university-sponsored trips are acceptable reasons for missing class. If you do not bring your music to your lesson, that lesson will count as an absence.

Students are expected to come prepared to their lesson. Lack of preparation is no excuse for rescheduling lessons. Lessons may only be rescheduled in case of illness, school event, or if I am unavailable. In extreme circumstances, you may consider switching your lesson time with another student. I will distribute a studio directory so that you can contact other students in the event you need to switch a lesson. Understand that you should only use this as a last resource and that you must plan your week appropriately to complete your practice and come prepared to your lesson.

By the third week of the semester, all students must have purchased copies of their music. Even though you may use photocopies for lessons, you are required to have your OWN music for the midterm and juries. No borrowed books or library copies will be allowed. It is your responsibility and expectation to build your own music library. The Internet and IMSLP are convenient resources, yet many times, these editions have errors in them or are unreliable. If you are uncertain of what editions to buy, please consult with me during the first week of school. Failure to bring your own music for juries and midterm will deduct 2 letter grades from your final grade.

Recording

Students are encouraged to record their lessons and their performances in studio class. If you would like to use the CD recording device that is in my office you can either use CDs or an SDHC Flash memory card. If you would like me to provide the blank CDs please bring $5 to cover the cost of CDs for the entire semester. **It is your responsibility to remind me to insert a blank CD at the beginning of each lesson.**

You will also have access to video of lessons and studio classes and other events.

Required Practice

Students are required to **practice daily.** Piano performance majors are required to practice a minimum of 4 hours each day at least 6 days a week. Music education majors and piano minors are required to practice a minimum of 2 hours per credit hour.

Repertoire

Each student will have specific repertoire assignments for the entire semester. You will also receive a worksheet indicating your technique requirements for the midterm and juries.

Sight-reading

Each student's sight-reading ability will be assessed during the first week of the semester. I have selected the Keith Snell Piano Repertoire publications, published by Kjos, www.kjos.com. Students will be responsible for purchasing the three books (Baroque & Classical, Romantic & Twentieth-Century, and Etudes) for the assigned level.

Midterm Exam

A midterm exam is scheduled for March 6. A sign up sheet with 10-minute slots will be posted one week prior to the exam.

Content of the exam:

1. Technique requirements as determined on the first week of the semester.
2. An Etude
3. Sight-reading

Students who are performing a degree recital this semester will not be expected to play the Etude for their midterm, unless it is part of the recital repertoire.

Jury

All students are required to complete a jury on May 14. A sign up sheet with 20-minute slots will be posted one week prior to the exam.

Content of the exam:

1. Technique
2. A prelude and fugue (memorization optional)
3. A movement from a sonata
4. 2 contrasting works
5. Sight-reading.

Recital Hearings

Students scheduled to perform a degree recital will be required to successfully complete a recital hearing 3 weeks prior to the scheduled date of the recital. Poor performance in the recital hearing will result in the rescheduling of the recital.

Studio Recital and Convocation

All students are expected to participate in at least one performance during the semester. The Fall Studio Recital is scheduled for May 6th at 6:00 pm in the Recital Hall. Convocation dates available for piano students will be announced later in the semester.

Studio Class

Studio class is scheduled on Mondays 4:00 to 5:00 pm in the Recital Hall. Occasionally, we will meet for studio class on additional days or for longer time. Please check your e-mail regularly for updates.

Program Notes

You will be responsible for writing program notes for all pieces performed in degree recitals or juries. Program notes will be due on the day of the recital hearing OR last lesson of the semester. You will receive a few samples to help you determine the content, length, and appropriate writing style to complete this assignment.

Listening Assignments

Students will have listening assignments during the semester that will aid them in the study and preparation of the selected repertoire.

Practice Room Etiquette

Students will not be allowed to leave books or personal belongings in the piano practice rooms. You may want to have a locker if you would like to store items in the music building. Food and drinks will not be allowed in the practice rooms either. Only bottled water (no open containers!) can be used in the practice room but they should never be placed on the pianos. Please make sure other music students are treating our instruments appropriately.

Piano maintenance: Forms to report problems with the piano can be found on the Piano Bulletin board (By the piano lab). Make sure you complete these forms every time you find an issue with one of the pianos. Try to be as specific and as clear as you can so that Mr. Mike Terrill, the piano technician, can fix the problem when he is on campus.

Grading:

Weekly lesson preparation	40%
Midterm	20%
Jury Or Recital	30%
Program Notes/Assignments	10%

A=100-90; B=89-80; C=79-70; D=69-60; F=59-0