Texas A&M University – Commerce
Department of Music
Applied Piano MUS 149, 151, 351
(non-barrier, elective lessons)

Instructor: Libby Vanatta  Email: libby.vanatta@gmail.com
Office: Music Building 221  Phone: 903-886-5286 office
                     972-352-8968 cell

*If the lessons are taught by a TA or adjunct, contact information will be given at
the first lesson of the semester.

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@tamuc.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
Jury 600 pts
A=1000-900  B= 899-800  C= 799-700  D= 699-600  F= 599-0
**Required Music Purchases**
At the first lesson after music is chosen for the semester, a list of expected music purchases will be given to the student. Once the list is given, the student has two weeks to purchase the books. The teacher will provide photocopies of technical exercises, etudes, accompaniments, or any other individual pieces to be covered during the semester.

**Required Practice**
Students are expected to **practice daily** for a minimum of thirty minutes to one hour. It is almost impossible to “cram” at the last minute and perform well on the jury. The jury is a performance, not a written test like those given in other classes. Students are not only expected to play the elements on jury well, but to do so in a performance setting in front of multiple jurists. Daily preparation is the only way to overcome nerves and to give the best performance possible!

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1) Learn all major or minor scales and arpeggios in a pattern and tempo specified by your teacher.
2) Learn technical exercises as assigned.
3) Learn a minimum of two pieces from different style periods.
4) For the jury: perform scales/arpeggios and two pieces with one being performed from memory (no memory requirement for non-music minors).

**Attendance**
Students are expected to attend all 30-minute lessons and studio classes scheduled by the instructor. **Only one absence is allowed.** Each additional absence will lower the final grade by 50 points (half a letter grade). A student may be dropped from the course after four absences. Repeated tardiness will lower the final grade by 5 points for each instance. Lessons will be counted as a tardy if all necessary materials are not brought by the student.

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 when advanced notification is given. It is the student’s responsibility to appropriately plan the activities of the week to complete adequate practice and come prepared to the lesson.

**Piano Studio Class**
There is no regularly scheduled studio class for this course.

**Piano Studio Recital**
The “Just for Fun” Piano Studio Recital will be scheduled later in the semester at 6pm in the Recital Hall. Students are encouraged but not required to perform on the recital. Performances can include solos, duets, trios, quartets, etc.