CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

Course Title: MU 111A Class Piano
Date of Preparation: Sept. 8, 1998
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COURSE OUTLINE

I. Catalogue Description

MU 111A Class Piano (1 unit)

Beginning class piano instruction. Development of ability to play chords in all keys and to harmonize melodies using these chords. Transposition of melodies. Technical studies. A course for music majors only. 2 hours activity.

II. Required Background or Experience

There is no prerequisite course for MU 111A. This course is for music majors only. MU 100 or the equivalent knowledge is expected.

III. Expected Outcomes

A. Technique:

1. Demonstrate the ability to play all Major and minor five-note scale patterns (pentachords on white and black key hand positions) with both hands simultaneously;
2. Demonstrate *legato* or *staccato* touch contrasted between the hands
3. Demonstrate skills with the following keyboard structures:
   a) Triads extracted from pentachords in four groups (based on white/black key relationships), both arpeggiated and blocked positions played in two hands simultaneously
      Group 1 – C, F, G; d, a, e
      Group 2 – D, A, E; c, f, g
      Group 3 – Db, Ab, Eb; f#, c#, g#
      Group 4 – Gb, Bb, B; d#, b, a#

   b) Major scales (white key and some black-key tonalities) with focus on standard fingerings for one octave–hands alone at a steady pulse of MM 60

   c) Chromatic and whole-tone scales

   d) Shifting between tonic, subdominant, and dominant triads to define tonal relationships in common Major keys

B. Repertoire: perform five-finger melodies emphasizing independence of hands, in Major and minor keys

C. Sight-read simple five-finger pieces with one hand moving faster than the other

D. Transpose at sight easy melodic lines, stressing intervallic reading

E. Harmonize simple melodies in Major keys with chordal accompaniment using tonic, subdominant, and dominant triads

F. Improvisation: five-finger melodic range over ostinato accompaniment supplied by instructor

IV. Text and Readings

Student Text: Carolynn Lindeman. Pianolab, 6th edition. Thomson Schirmer, 2008

V. Minimum Student Materials

Textbook, standard music manuscript notebook, earphones.

VI. Minimum College Facilities

Classroom with music-lined whiteboard and multiple piano stations. Other pianos available for individual practice outside of class.

VII. Course Outline

1. Grand Staff and its relationship to keyboard.
2. 24 Major/minor pentachord scales and 24 tonic triads in all white/black key positions.
3. Tetrachord structure for all Major scales and Circle of Fifths.
4. Inversions of 12 tonic triads in two qualities - Major, minor, diminished, and augmented.
5. Tonic, subdominant, and dominant triads as blocked chords for melody accompaniment.
6. Transposition of melodic and harmonic exercises into four closely related keys.
7. Improvisation in five-finger positions over ostinato accompaniment.

VIII. Instructional Methods

1. Lecture presentation at keyboard and whiteboard.
2. Individual and group performance in class.
3. Discussion of text material and handouts.
4. Directed attention to memorization, coordination and technical exercises.
5. Sight-reading of simple melodies.

IX. Evaluation of Outcomes

1. Class discussion of text materials and handouts.
2. Daily keyboard performance evaluation on text assignments.
3. Group keyboard activities in class.
4. Evaluation of individual performance on scheduled examinations.