MU 361.1 Piano Literature I Spring 2016

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SYLLABUS

Description

This course provides an overview of piano literature and performance practices beginning with the earliest examples of keyboard music leading up to and inclusive of the standard repertoire of the early nineteenth-century. By means of score study, listening, readings, and presentations, the student will acquire analytical skills and develop historical concepts needed to the understanding and performance of this literature.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course, the student will demonstrate the ability to

analyze scores of pieces studied aurally identify musical examples studied perform a selected composition from the repertoire covered in this course. present a written document that examines the historical and aesthetic background of the work, selected for performance, and provide its stylistic analysis

Textbook

Kirby, F. E. Music for Piano: A Short History. Portland, Oregon: Amadeus Press, 1995

Course Requirements and Grading

- 1. 30% Class assignments
- 2. 20% Performance of a piece
- 3. 20% Written document

4. 30% Final exam in two parts: aural identification of musical examples and written answers to questions regarding materials studied in class

Evaluation Criteria

1. Completeness: The work incorporates materials required by the assignments and in-class exercises.

2. Quality: The work is prepared in a way that exhibits a high quality of understanding and mastery of the assignment.

3. Pertinence: The work incorporates techniques and practices from this class, the texts, and handouts.

Academic honesty

Please refer to the Student's Handbook for the College's policy

Attendance

Since participation in the class constitutes a substantial part of the work of the course, unexcused absences will lower grades as follows.

2 unexcused absences: 10%

3 unexcused absences: 20%

4 unexcused absences: 30%

5 unexcused absences: 40%

6 unexcused absences: failed course

Excused absences require a doctor's note or a note from the Student's Affairs Office. Note: Absent students are responsible for all assignments. A doctor's excuse does not excuse the student from submitting required material. Consistent lateness (late for class 6 or more times) will lower the grade by 10%.

Schedule (1 class per week)

- Week 1 : Introduction: the origins and development of keyboard instruments. Early keyboard music: principal forms and composers
- Week 2 : Early keyboard music : principal forms and composers (continued). Performance practice of the period.

Week 3 : J. S. Bach : General characteristics of style. The Well-Tempered Clavier and

pedagogical pieces.

- Week 4 : J. S. Bach : The Suites, Clavierübung, The Goldberg Variations, The Art of Fugue. Performance practice.
- Week 5 : The development of the modern piano. Keyboard music of Haendel, Couperin, Rameau.
- Week 6: Keyboard music of Scarlatti and the sons of J. S. Bach
- Week 7 : The eighteenth-century Classicism: Haydn
- Week 8 : The eighteenth-century Classicism : Mozart
- Week 9 : Beethoven's early period.
- Week 10 : Beethoven's middle period.
- Week 11 : Beethoven's late period
- Week 12 : The early nineteenth century: Weber
- Week 13 : Performance of the selected composition and presentation of the written document. Final exam and evaluations.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact the Academic Support Center, located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.