

# Syllabus -- Freshman Piano Class MUSI 1114.F50C

## Fall 2015

**Instructor:** Gayle Bizzell

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**Phone:** 432-638-0855 (cell); 432-335-6630 (office)

**Office:** Room 119

Office Hours	
Campus Office Hours:	Flexible - "drop on by" or by appointment!
Online Office Hours:	

### **Textbook(s):**

Alfred's Group Piano for Adults, Book 1, 2nd Ed., E.L. Lancaster & Kennon D. Renfrow, Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. 2004.

Scale Skills, Book 3

One 3-ring binder. All supplemental materials given to you in class should be put in your piano binder. Bring binder (along with the other 2 required books) to EVERY CLASS.

### **Hardware:**

Odessa College provides both electronic and acoustic pianos for "homework" practicing.

### **Course Description**

Students will develop and/or enhance their music reading and listening skills through practice and performance on their instrument. Freshman Class Piano (1114.F50C) is a course for music majors designed to present musical knowledge as applied to the keyboard and to further develop basic skills related to playing the piano. Fundamental keyboard skills will include sightreading, transposition,

scales, chords, harmonization, arpeggios, ensemble playing and interpretation and performance of solo repertoire.

## **Course Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will identify correct hand position and finger numbers used to play the piano.
2. Students will master the "drop roll" or "breathing" motion necessary for agile and efficient technique at the piano.
3. Students will be able to create both the major and minor circle of 5ths.
4. Students will read and play in all major and minor pentascale positions.
5. Students will identify the I, V7 and IV chords for all major and minor keys.
6. Students will be exposed to a variety of piano repertoire.
7. Students will cultivate musical expression.
8. Students will display critical thinking and listening skills through oral critiques of performances concerning artistic expression, performance practice, and selection of repertoire.

## **Course Prerequisites:**

None.

## **Course Topics:**

Learn and polish at least 2 contrasting musical works.

Perform on recital (optional).

Learn how to strengthen piano technique.

Study scales, chords and arpeggios in all keys.

Learn to sightread and transpose.

## **Grading**

Type of Assignment	Percentage/Points	Learning Objective
Attendance	30%	5
Weekly Assignments:	50%	1, 3
Final:	20%	1, 2
	100%	TOTAL

**Grading Scale:**

"A" = 90-100

"B" = 80-89

"C" = 70-79

"D" = 60-69

"F" = 0-59

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class regularly. You will receive a daily grade - either a 100 or a 0. You get three free absences, i.e., three 0's will be dropped at the end of the semester.

**General Course Requirements**

- Attend class and participate.
- Contribute and cooperate with civility.
- Practice piano every day.

**Course Schedule**

(Tentative and Subject to Change)

	Instructional	Topic	Assignment	Assignment
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Date	Approach (* denotes a strategy adopted by AVID)			Submission
	Recital - Optional	Performance	Student will demonstrate knowledge and creative abilities through the performance of a work of the standard repertoire.	12/15
	Learn 2 Contrasting Works	Interpretation/Performance	Student will be assigned repertoire according to their ability.	Various
	Sightreading	Daily Work	Student will be asked to sightread once per day as part of their home/practice commitments.	Throughout semester
	Technique	Daily Work	Student will be asked to spend 10% of their home/practice time on piano technique, such as a Hanon exercise and scale/arpeggio practice.	Throughout semester
	Scales, chords, arpeggios & transposition	Ongoing Work	Student will be assigned skills practice according to their need and ability level.	Throughout semester