MUS A278: Piano Master Class 4

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Item Value
Curriculum Committee Approval 12/08/2021

Date

Top Code 100400 - Music
Units 2 Total Units

Hours 54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours

27; Lab Hours 27)

Total Outside of Class Hours

Course Credit Status Credit: Degree Applicable (D)

Material Fee

Basic Skills Not Basic Skills (N)

Repeatable No

Grading Policy Standard Letter (S)

#### **Course Description**

Students perform works in a masterclass setting with emphasis on the Romantic and Contemporary Styles. Historical precedents from the Beethoven's Later Period and examples from the Romantic and Classical Period will be covered. Functional skills including technique, memorization, sight-reading, transposition, and ensemble playing. ADVISORY: Minimum 3 years prior piano study, to be verified during first week of class. Transfer Credit: CSU.

## **Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)**

- Complete a structural and harmonic analysis of a major Romantic style piano work of at least 5 minutes length by Brahms, Chopin, Grieg, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninoff, or Schumann.
- Present from memory a public performance of a Romantic Period composition of at least 5 minutes length from the standard advanced piano repertoire.

## **Course Objectives**

- 1. Perform all major and minor scales (4 octaves, ascending-descending) at a tempo of at least quarter note = 120.
- 2. Perform all major and minor arpeggios (4 octaves, ascendingdescending) at a tempo of at least quarter note = 120.
- 3. Perform by memory a work of 3 minutes length or more from the standard classical piano repertory.
- · 4. 4. Evaluate and critique their performance.
- 5. 5. Participate in classroom discussions evaluating other students required performances.
- 6. Attend at least two performances of the standard piano solo or piano concerto literature.

#### **Lecture Content**

1. Major and minor scalesa. Major scales - all keysb. Natural Minor scales - all keysc. Harmonic Minor scales - all keysd. Melodic Minor scales - all keyse. 4 octavesf. Tempoi. Mediumii. Fastiii. Contrasting articulations1. legato2. staccatoiv. Varying intervals1. at the 3rd2. at the 6th3. at the 10thg. with contrary motion2. Arpeggiosa. Major scales - all keysb. Minor scales - all keysc. 4 octavesd. Tempoi. Slowii. Mediumiii.

Contrasting articulations 1. legato 2. staccatoiv. Varying intervals 1. at the 6th2. at the 10th3. Romantic Stylea. Historical precedents i. Fields Nocturnesii. Beethovens Late Piano Sonatas (Op. 101, 106, 109, 110, 111)iii. Mendelssohns Lieder ohne Worteb. Structural Analysisi. repetition and formal devicesii. avoidance of cadencesiii. thematic transformationc. Harmonic Analysisa. use of chromatic harmonyb. tonic-dominant axisc. secondary dominants and retonicizationd, cadence pointsi, deceptive cadencese. subdominant substitutesi. Neapolitan sixthsii. diminished seventhsf. augmented sixth chordsi. French sixthii. German sixthiii. Italian sixthg. modulation via third relationshipsh. Wagnerian conceptsi. ewige Melodieii. leitmotif4. Performancea. Choosing repertoirei. Suitabilityii. Audienceiii. Playabilityiv. Cohesive programv. Technical endurancevi. New and old repertoireb. Audio examples of notable performersi. Stylistic differentiationii. Performance evoluation from a historic viewpoint5. memorization techniquesa. Extended musical structuresi. Hear themes ii. Play themesiii.mo tifsiv. visualization6. master classa. performeri. concentration during longer compositions1. follow structure2. modulations3. thematic developmentb. auditori. take notesii. support the performeriii. follow the scoresiv. make notations in the score1. fingerings2. articulations3. phrasing4. dynamics5. ending7. public performancea. performing longer worksb. extended musical structuresi. sonata ii. suiteiii. prelude and fugue8. Functional Skillsa. Sight-readingi. 32-measure pieces hands together quarter-note=60-80ii. 32-measure pieces in four-part chorale notation with two-staff notation (soprano-alto: treble staff / tenor-bass: bass staff) quarter-note 50-60

#### **Lab Content**

1. Practice and review of major and minor scales.2. Practice and review of major arpeggios.3. Writing harmonic analyses of assigned works.4. Rehearsal of solo works.5. Rehearsal of ensemble works.6. Rehearsal of assigned works for public performance.7. Supervised lab time for using music software to create transcriptions and score annotations.8. Practice and review of functional skills for sight-reading in preparation for sight-reading component as part of piano audition required for transfer.

# **Method(s) of Instruction**

- Lecture (02)
- Lab (04)

#### **Instructional Techniques**

1. Lecture 2. Group rehearsal and performance. #. Solo rehearsal and performance. 4. Participation in masterclass.

#### **Reading Assignments**

Two hours weekly online reading selections provided by instructor from various texts and publications, including standard reference works such as The Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, The Harvard Dictionary of Music, and The Elements of Piano Technique (Hutcheson).

#### **Writing Assignments**

1. Students will spend at least three hours attending at least two performances of piano solo or piano concerto literature during the semester and write a critical concert review analysis of each.

#### **Out-of-class Assignments**

1. 120 minutes minimum practice at the piano 5-7 days per week. 2. Listening to reference recordings as recommended by instructor for critical thinking, aural analysis, harmonic analysis, structural analysis, and the development of stylistic awareness and interpretive ideas for

performance based on comparision of multiple recordings of the same work by different artists.

#### **Demonstration of Critical Thinking**

Written (music) and performance tests

#### **Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration**

Students must demonstrate proficiency in performing classical piano music to the instructors satisfaction to complete the course. This will include solo performance, sight reading and technical studies.

## **Eligible Disciplines**

Music: Masters degree in music OR bachelors degree in music AND masters degree in humanities OR the equivalent. Masters degree required.

#### **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required Plantinga, Leon. Romantic Music: A History of Musical Style in Nineteenth-Century Europe, ed. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 1985 Rationale: Analysis of Romantic style and formal elements.