MVK 2122: Class Piano IV (1 credit hour)  
Spring 2013

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30am-1:30pm; Tuesdays 10am-noon  
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Class Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8-8:50am (Section 0001); Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30-9:20am (Section 0002); Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-3:20pm (Section 0003)  
Class Location: M-132

Course Description: Class Piano IV is the final course in a four-part sequence designed to teach non-piano majors keyboard skills. The skills you have learned from the three previous semesters will culminate with the Keyboard Skills Proficiency that you must successfully pass in order to satisfy the core curriculum of Class Piano. The prerequisite for this course is the successful completion of Class Piano III with a grade of a ‘C’ or higher. Please download the Keyboard Skills requirements at: www.music.cah.ucf.edu.piano.php and click on “Piano Proficiency Requirements.”

Additional aspects of this course will include, but certainly not be limited to, the introduction of scales, minor technical exercises, chord progressions, improvisation, sight-reading, playing extended works, and harmonization and transposition.

Course Goals: The goals of this course are essentially outlined for you in the Piano Proficiency requirements. You are to pass each section of this exam in order to complete this course successfully.

Required Course Materials  
Other useful items for you to bring to each class will be a pencil, folder and manuscript paper. The latter item is available to for free at http://www.blanksheetmusic.net

Grading:  
The grading for this course is outlined, in part, in the Piano Proficiency requirements, but here is another explanation of it for you. You will take FIVE midterm examinations throughout the semester and each of these exams will cover a portion of the Keyboard Skills Proficiency outlined below. If you pass all five midterms during the semester, you will have successfully completed the Proficiency and your final grade for it will be an average of those five midterms.

If you do not pass each individual section (whether it is one part or all five parts) via the five midterms, you will be required to take the section(s) you missed in the form of a final exam. NOTE: Should you pass each midterm during the normal course of the semester, you are EXEMPT from the final exam and your grade for the proficiency will be calculated using the method above. If you have to retake any portion of the proficiency on the final exam, you may pass it at that point. Your grade for the section(s) you missed will be calculated by using what you score on the final exam and that grade will take the place of how you scored on the midterm. For those who are exempt from the final exam, you may opt to improve your grade, if you so choose, on the final exam. However, if it is deemed that your score on the section(s) you attempt to retake on the final exam is/are not higher than your midterm score(s), you will receive the higher grade of the two (your midterm score).
If you do not pass a section of the proficiency on both the midterm and final exam, your grade for that section will be a ZERO. All five portions of the proficiency must meet the minimum requirements described in each section in order for you to pass the entire exam.

10% = Attendance and participation and homework
20% = Preparatory quiz over scales
20% = Preparatory quiz over repertoire and chord progressions
50% = Combination of Midterms I-V covering the Piano Proficiency, or Final exam, where applicable

**You will be notified about each exam a minimum of ONE WEEK before you are to take it.** I will always email you the specific areas on which you will be assessed. I expect you to dedicate time outside of class to practice and prepare for quizzes and exams. Please come prepared to class every day with the materials we have worked on during previous sessions.

Consistent daily piano practice is required for this course. You should plan at least 30 minutes of practice time per day.

**Attendance:**
I will take attendance EVERY DAY and you will be expected to contribute to the class discussions I hope to have. You are allowed to miss TWO classes (the equivalent to one week’s worth of class) before the attendance portion of your grade is affected negatively. If you are more than TEN minutes late to class, you will be marked absent for that day. Here is a breakdown of how I will penalize the attendance portion of your grade for absences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Absences</th>
<th>Penalties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>No Penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Deduction to attendance grade in this manner: an A will become an A-; a B+ will become a B, and so on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Deduction to attendance grade in this manner: an A will become a B+; a B+ will become a B- and so on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Deduction to attendance grade of a full letter grade (e.g., an A will become a B; a B becomes a C, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Deduction to attendance grade of TWO full letter grades (e.g., an A becomes a C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 or more</td>
<td>Deduction to attendance grade of THREE letter grades.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here is a simple breakdown of my course grading scale:

A: 93-100%
A-: 90-92%
B+: 87-89%
B: 83-86%
B-: 80-82%
C+: 77-79%
C: 73-76%
C-: 70-72%
D+: 67-69%
D: 63-66%
D-: 60-62%
F: 59% and below

**Make-up Policies:** There will be no make-up exams for any unexcused absence. If you miss a scheduled exam for any reason other than the circumstances listed below, you will not be permitted to take a make-up exam. I cannot impress upon you how strict I am with this rule. Furthermore, if you decide to withdraw from my class, please make sure that you are aware of the withdrawal deadline posted by the UCF Registrar. I do not withdraw students from my roster and should you stop coming to class after the withdrawal deadline, you will remain on my grade sheet and you will receive the grade you earned until the point at which you stopped attending.

1. Death in the immediate family that occurred within the 7 days preceding the scheduled exam.
2. Personal illness (any type), for which you will need to provide a doctor’s note.
3. Any college-related activity that can be documented by another professor, coach, or administrator.
4. Personal observance of a recognized religious holiday

**Classroom Policies** In addition to attending class regularly and participating in discussions, I do not have many rules for the classroom. You are expected to behave professionally during lectures and discussions in order to foster a positive learning environment for all students. If you are to bring a laptop to class in order to take notes, please feel free to do so. However, you may not use your computer to IM, text, play games, do work for another class, surf the net, etc. Please be sensible about this to avoid losing the privilege. Cell phone use is an entirely separate matter, however. **TURN OFF OR SILENCE ALL PHONES PRIOR TO ENTERING CLASS.** If your phone happens to go off or if you are caught texting during a lecture, you will be asked to leave.

Rules for E-mailing me:

1. **You may only email me regarding this course from your "Knights" email. Do not email me from any other email account that you have (Hotmail, Gmail, AOL, etc.).**
2. Be patient. Don’t expect an immediate response when you send a message. Generally, one day is considered reasonable amount of time to receive a reply. I am usually VERY good about answering emails right away (except for the weekends), so please grant me that extension.
3. Include "Subject" headings: use something that is descriptive and refer to a particular assignment or topic.
4. ALWAYS SIGN YOUR EMAILS WITH YOUR NAME, PID NUMBER, AND THE COURSE IN WHICH YOU ARE ENROLLED WITH ME. In any given semester, I have more than 500 students spread across 5 different classes. This will help me address your needs more immediately.

Here is to a productive semester studying music!

****As the instructor of this course, I reserve the right to modify this syllabus at my discretion. Any changes will be announced in class or via email****