

POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY
Music Department
MUA 156, 256, 356, 456 - Private Piano
Brenda Martin, Professor
Fall 2014

COURSE SYLLABUS

1. TITLE: Private Piano
2. CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Private, applied instruction in piano is a vital part of the development of music majors, as well as an appropriate elective for many non- majors. Each level of study has defined materials and technical masteries to be achieved. Students are assigned to a level according to their proficiency and mastery of materials listed for given level.
3. PREREQUISITE: None for MUA 156 except for music majors who should pass the piano proficiency exam before enrolling in Private Piano. Class Piano is recommended for students who have never studied piano before. MUA 256, 356, and 456 are taken only by students who have been raised to one of these levels by the piano faculty after a piano jury.
4. INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Brenda Martin
Office: CMC 220
Cell phone (text preferred): 858-752-3532
Office phone number: 619-849-2353
E-mail address: brendamartin@pointloma.edu
5. Office hours: By appointment
6. UNITS: 1-2 (Two units are usually reserved for piano performance majors and upper division music education majors preparing for a recital.).
7. MEETING TIME AND PLACE: Time: _____ Place: CMC 220
8. TEXT(S): Repertoire for study will be assigned throughout the semester. Students may borrow scores from the music library or other sources temporarily, but students must have purchased and obtained their own copy of the assigned repertoire within two weeks of the lesson. You'll need to order your music right away so you have it by the 3rd lesson. There will also be fees for any competitions you enter.
Ordering from the cheapest place on the internet may cause unacceptable delays.

Music may be purchased from:

Lovley Music 858-277-5754

MR Music Notes 619-283-2001

Pepper Music http://www.pianoatpepper.com/catalog/pap_index.jsp

Sheet Music Plus <http://www.sheetmusicplus.com>

9. OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS: A metronome and a notebook for assignments.
10. POSITION OF COURSE IN COLLEGE CURRICULUM: Private piano is required of all piano performance majors, and is an option for meeting the private lesson requirement for other music majors. Private piano is also often taken as an elective course by music majors and by non-music majors desiring to continue developing their piano skills.
11. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of a semester of private lesson study, a successful piano student will
- Attain mastery of technical exercises and etudes appropriate to the student's class level and degree program stipulated in the Music Student Handbook, as demonstrated by successful completion of the technique portion of the jury exam with a grade of "B" or better.
 - Cultivate technical and interpretive skills needed to perform repertoire from contrasting historical periods in accordance with the level and scope expectations (required number of pieces and duration) stipulated in the Music Student Handbook, as demonstrated by successful completion of the repertoire portion of the jury with a grade of "B" or better.
 - Develop performance skills, such as memorization and stage presentation, through the application of practice strategies and creative problem solving, as demonstrated by satisfactory performance participation in piano forum and department recitals; successful completion of the repertoire portion of the jury with a grade of "B" or better.
- ***Students who are not required to perform a jury exam for the piano faculty will be evaluated for progress on technique assignments on an individual basis during both midterm and final exam weeks.
12. METHODS USED IN THE COURSE: Ordinarily lesson assignments will include new, continuing and review repertoire as well as technique and memorization assignments. Each week student progress will be evaluated and suggestions for improvement will be offered. A journal of daily practice must be kept on a Google Drive document shared by the student and the professor. Each week, the professor will put practice assignments on the document for the next lesson. The practice journal will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the student's progress toward assigned objectives.
13. CLASS PREPARATION: Students studying for one unit of credit should practice six hours per week, six days per week. Students studying for two units of credit should practice twelve hours per week, six days per week. Piano performance majors will ordinarily find it necessary to spend additional time at the instrument in order to complete assignments satisfactorily. Practice rooms are available by checking out a key at the music office.
- Students studying for one-unit will be required to memorize two pieces (or a total of 6 min.) during the semester. The first piece (or first 3 min.) must be memorized by lesson 8. The second piece (or last 3 min.) must be memorized by lesson 14. Additional repertoire will be studied as well. Students who are at a less advanced level will be required to learn (with music) a number of pieces in addition to the memorized pieces in order to advance their reading and technical skills. *NOTE for piano emphasis majors: The length of the pieces required for your piano jury must add up to the required number of minutes for that level (see attached jury requirement sheet), and so will be more than 6 minutes.

- Students studying for two units will be required to prepare additional repertoire throughout the semester, and will have longer jury exams as well. These students will be expected to follow a similar schedule of memorization with approximately half of their repertoire prepared by the mid-semester grading deadline.

14. PIANO FORUM: 8-10 piano forums will be held during the semester to enable students to perform, receive coaching, and hear others perform. The required forums are held every Monday from 4-5 (except when there are student recitals). *See attached student recital and forum schedule.

- Music majors whose primary performance area is piano must attend 7 piano forums. Other students must attend 3 forums.
- Attendance at the ENTIRE CLASS is required, unless you have a conflicting class that you have cleared in advance with your professor.
- Music majors with a piano emphasis must perform on at least *one* piano forum (in addition to attending and performing on all studio forums). Non-music majors must perform on at least *two* *studio forums (but must attend *all three* studio forums).
- Missing two of the required number of forums counts as a missed lesson, missing four of the required forums counts as two missed lessons, and missing six counts as three missed lessons.

15. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Music majors with a piano emphasis are required to perform in at least one student recital per semester and one piano forum per semester.
- Three *studio forums will be held during the semester (where the studios meet separately). All students in my studio *must* attend and perform on these forums.
- A final studio forum (required) for my students will be held at my home, 3787 Belford Street, San Diego, CA 92111 on Saturday, December ____ at _____. All students must perform at least one memorized piece on this forum. Music majors with a piano emphasis must perform **all** jury repertoire on this forum.

16. COMPETITION: Piano performance majors who are sophomores or above **MUST** participate in a competition this semester unless this is your first semester of study in this studio. Other music majors whose primary area in piano may elect to perform in a competition or to complete the community service requirement.

- Community service – This requirement requires ½ day of community service in a music teacher event this semester unless you compete in a competition. Please plan two weeks in advance. Do not call the organizer the day before the event and expect to be accommodated; this is not professional and does not reflect the values of our PLNU community. Several possibilities are listed below:

Sunday, October 5, 1-5 pm, Fall Performance Contest/

Concerto Competition; YY Arts Center - 10710 Thornmint Road, San Diego, CA 92127. Application deadline: September 20 (Postmark)

Chair: Lu-Yan Guo: (858) 486-2487 / LuYan.Guo@yahoo.com

Saturday, October 11, 10-12:30, Ensemble Auditions, Greene Music,

Application deadline: September 11 (Postmark), Chair: Tim Broadway: (619) 542-0120 / timbroadway@mac.com, Saturday, October 11, 10:30-4:30

Fall Pop Music Festival, Escondido Public Library, Turrentine Room, Application deadline: September 24 (Postmark), Chairs: Tim & Sally Sumner: (619) 267-3880 / (619) 760-3391 / sumnersmusic@cox.net, Saturday, November 1, 9 am - 5 pm

Popular Music Festival, Grossmont College, Chair: Anna Robitaille,

anna@missionhillsmusic.org, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 15 and 16

Piano Auditions, Application deadline: October 15, Chair: Rowena Asuncion: (858) 964-8377 / rtfasuncion@san.rr.com

AND

Duet Festival, Application deadline: October 15, Chair: Young Robbins: (760) 721-0575 / YLRobbins@hotmail.com, Both events held at Museum of Making Music, Carlsbad, Saturday, November 22, 9 am - 5 pm

Honors Auditions/Contemporary Music Festival, University of San Diego, Application deadline: October 15, Chairs: Susan & George Fee: (619) 295-0167 / sdfee@cox.net

Sonata Contest, SDSU, Application deadline: Nov. 24, Chair: Lori Vickers and Jane Bastien (jsbastien@aol.com or lbastienv@aol.com), Saturday, December 13

17. **JURY REQUIREMENTS:** Music majors with a piano emphasis, students on a piano scholarship, and anyone wishing to advance a level **MUST** take a jury every semester. See attached sheet for jury requirements. The jury will count _____ of the final grade.

18. **EVALUATION:** A weekly grade for lessons will be recorded on the basis of successful completion of the weekly objectives. While evaluation of a student's work in private piano is necessarily somewhat subjective, the following criteria will be used to establish the semester grade for the course:
 - student's attendance at lessons
 - filling out online practice journals

- adequate preparation of lesson assignments
- appropriate participation at piano forum and studio classes
- complete memorization of at least one work from the student's jury repertoire prior to the midterm grading deadline
- performance of all required recitals and exams

*Music majors whose primary performing area is piano and non-majors who have a scholarship for piano study are required to take a jury at the end of each term according to the requirements in the catalog.

19. **Attendance** - Attendance, as is obvious by the grading criteria above, is very important in private piano. According to the *Catalog*, whenever the number of accumulated absences in a class, for any cause, exceeds ten percent of the total number of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report to the Vice Provost for Academic Administration which may result in de-enrollment, pending any resolution of the excessive absences between the faculty member and the student. If more than 20 percent of the total number of class meetings is reported as missed (three weeks or longer in a semester-long course), the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration may initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course without advance notice to the student. For full details, see: http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=864#Class_Attendance

- Based on information above, here is a summary of what counts as absences:
 - 3 tardies = 1 absence
 - missing piano forum
 - missing your community service opportunity or competition
 - missing a required student recital performance
- You will **not** be penalized for the first absence; this allows for a sick day or personal day (I suggest saving this absence just in case you do get sick).
- If you are absent twice (two weeks of lessons) or have the equivalent of 2 absences (see forum, volunteer and performance guidelines above), you'll lose one letter grade
- If you are absent 3 times (3 weeks of lessons or the equivalent), you'll lose 2 letter grades.

20. **MAKE-UP POLICY:** Missed lessons will be made up only if due to illness and if the professor is notified in advance. Only one lesson will be made up per semester, unless I have to miss your lesson. Unexcused absences (for any reason other than illness or family emergency) will not be made up. Students may change lesson times with another student for a week they need to miss.

21. **RECITALS:** Students are encouraged to attend recitals on-campus which are sponsored by the music department. Check the bulletin boards in the hallways for details. You may also check the school's departmental website for a schedule of events. Recital attendance (12 per semester) is required of music majors. Each music major must perform on at least *one* student recital once per semester in their major performing area.

22. **GRADING:** The following percentage scale will be used in figuring grades:

93-100% = A

90-92% = A-
87-89% = B+
83-86% = B
80-82% = B-
77-79% = C+
73-78% = C
70-72% = C-
67-69% = D+
63-66% = D
60-62% = D-
0-59% = F

The final course grade will be based upon these factors:

- Weekly Assignment Grades, including submission of practice journals, attendance
- Required Attendance and Performance at Piano Forum, Student Recital, and Final Studio Recital
- Community Service or participation in a competition
- Improvement
- Semester Jury Exam Grade (average of piano faculty grades for performance exam) This applies to music majors with a piano emphasis only.

The final grade assigned by the instructor must be no more than one grade higher or lower than that assigned by the jury. **JURY EXAMS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY OF FINALS WEEK. MUSIC MAJORS MUST TAKE A JURY TO PASS THE CLASS.** *Jury repertoire and technique expectations for music majors with a piano emphasis are listed in the Music Student Handbook. These guidelines are listed by class level and the number of registration units.

23. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS.** All students are expected to meet the standards for this course as set by the instructor. However, students with learning disabilities who may need accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first two weeks of class and provide approved documentation and verification of need. The Academic Support Center is available to students for a variety of tutorial needs.
24. **FERPA POLICY:** In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by (each faculty member choose one strategy to use: distributing all grades and papers individually; requesting and filing written student permission; or assigning each student a unique class ID number not identifiable on the alphabetic roster.). Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the "Information Release" section of the student portal. See Policy Statements in the undergraduate student catalog

PIANO FORUM/STUDENT RECITAL DATES

- 9/8 Barbecue at Dr. Labenske's home: 828 Temple St. San Diego, CA 92106 (619)602-1690
- 9/15 Forum
- 9/22 Studios Meet Separately: Dr. Labenske: Parlor Prof. Martin: CMC220 (Studio)
- 9/29 Forum
- 10/6 Student Recital 1
- 10/13 Forum
- 10/20 Studios Meet Separately: Prof. Martin: Parlor Dr. Labenske: CMC214 (Studio)
- 10/27 Forum
- 11/3 Student Recital 2
- 11/10 Studios Meet Separately: Dr. Labenske: Parlor Prof. Martin: CMC220 (Studio)
- 11/17 Forum
- 11/24 Student Recital 3
- 12/1 Forum
- 12/8 Student Recital 4
- 12/12 Piano Proficiency Exam (music majors only) Wednesday afternoon (sign up for a time)
- 12/13 Final Studio Class at Professor Martin's home (required) Time: _____
- 12/15 Piano Juries Time: _____