



Department of Music

MUA1043 Piano Proficiency Skills

1 Unit

Fall 2021

Meeting days: Tu-Th	Dr. Victor Labenske
Meeting times: 11-11:55	Phone (cell): 619-602-1690
Meeting location: CM011	E-mail: vlabensk@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Th 12/16 10:30-1:00	Office location and hours: CMC 214
	M 12:30-1:30, 2:30-3 Tu 10-11, 3-4, 5-5:30 W 10:30-11, 1-1:30 Th 10:30-11, 3-4, 5-5:30 F 10:30-11 I also would love to meet over lunch in the Dining Commons if that works for you (Tu-Th)

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Class instruction in piano. Emphasizes harmonization, hymn reading, solo and congregational style hymn playing and rudimentary melodic improvisation. Appropriate for music majors preparing for piano proficiency examination. May be repeated.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester, you should be able to pass at least 3 parts of the proficiency exam:

- improvisation
- folk song
- hymn sight reading
- sonatina or invention
- prepared hymn
- patriotic song

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOME

This course prepares students to meet one of the department PLOs: Students who complete the program will be able to demonstrate essential competencies in musicianship skills in Written Theory, Aural skills and Keyboard Musicianship.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- *Sing to the Lord*. Kansas City, MO: Lillenas Publishing Company, 1993.
- eNovative Piano (www.enovativepiano.com)
- Canvas (your normal login)
- Canvas Music Department Page (Piano Proficiency Module):
<https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/40730>

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Course schedule information is on Canvas.

Final Exam: December 16, 10:30-1:00

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Assignment distribution by percentage:

- 15% = improvisation (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 15% = folk song (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 15% = hymn sight reading (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 15% = pre-sonatina and sonatina repertoire pieces (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 15% = congregational style hymn (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 15% = patriotic song (10% = Proficiency Exam; 5% = all other drills)
- 10% = class preparation and participation. Student grades usually will be posted in the Canvas grade book by the next class period. It is important to read the comments posted

in the grade book as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted within one week of the end of the class.

- All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Quizzes will not be made up. Late work, should it be accepted, will lose 10% per calendar day.

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages				
A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Class Preparation: You are expected to practice for a minimum of 40 minutes per day (4 hours per week). I'll collect practice records each week to help you keep accountable. Your recorded practice time recorded should include time spent playing the piano (for class assignments). It shouldn't include class time or time spent at the piano not directly related to this course. It is likely that some of you will require more practice than others in order to be adequately prepared for each class. Cramming for piano is impossible since it requires constant skill development. It is your daily commitment to achieving this goal which will result in success.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances. Late assignments will lose 10% per calendar day.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#)

	Improvisation	Folk Song	Hymn Sight Reading	Sonatina	Prepared Hymn	Patriotic Song
A	Accurately plays exam-level improvisation examples at a moderate tempo with 1 week of preparation.	Accurately sight reads folk song at a moderate tempo adding appropriate I, IV and V chords	Sight reads hymn accurately at a moderate tempo.	Plays sonatina or invention accurately at an appropriate tempo.	Plays congregational-style hymn accurately at a moderate tempo	Plays patriotic song accurately at a moderate tempo
B	Accurately plays exam-level improvisation examples at a slow tempo with 1 week of preparation.	Accurately sight reads folk song at a slow tempo adding appropriate I, IV and V chords	Accurately sight reads hymn at a slow tempo	Plays sonatina or invention accurately but under tempo.	Plays congregational-style hymn accurately at a slow tempo	Plays patriotic song accurately at a slow tempo
C	Plays exam-level improvisation examples at a slow tempo and/or with a small number of errors and with 1 week of preparation.	Sight reads folk song at a slow tempo adding appropriate I, IV and V chords. A small number of errors is present in note reading, rhythm and/or chord choices	Sight reads hymn at a slow tempo and/or with a small number of errors	Plays sonatina or invention under tempo and/or with a small number of errors	Plays congregational-style hymn accurately at a slow tempo and/or with a small number of errors	Plays patriotic song accurately and at a slow tempo and/or with a small number of errors
D	Plays exam-level improvisation examples at a very slow tempo and/or with a significant number of errors and with 1 week of preparation.	Sight reads folk song at a slow tempo adding appropriate I, IV and V chords. A significant number of errors is present in note reading, rhythm and/or chord choices	Sight reads hymn at a slow tempo and/or with a significant number of errors	Plays sonatina or invention under tempo and/or with a significant number of errors	Plays congregational-style hymn accurately at a slow tempo and/or with a significant number of errors	Plays patriotic song accurately and at a slow tempo and/or with a significant number of errors
F	Inaccurately plays exam-level improvisation examples with 1 week of preparation; tempo is erratic; numerous errors.	Inaccurately sight reads folk song. Numerous errors in note reading, rhythm and/or chord choices are present OR No Finale Folk Song	Inaccurately sight reads hymn	Inaccurately plays sonatina or invention OR Selects inappropriate repertoire	Inaccurately plays congregational-style hymn OR Selects inappropriate hymn or style	Inaccurately plays patriotic song OR Selects inappropriate song