MUS 147 GROUP PIANO LEVEL II

COURSE SYLLABUS

General Goals

I. Development of keyboard skills sufficient to play elementary - intermediate repertoire. Emphasis is on the elements of musical form: rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, dynamics, and color.

II. The use of the piano as a means of expression: interpretation of the music itself.

III. The use of the piano as a functional teaching instrument: sight-reading, transposition, harmonization, and improvisation.

Course Procedure

Successful progress will ensue if regular practice occurs. Numerous grades on a variety of assignments will keep the student aware of the instructor’s response to his/her work. The day by day effort accumulates in such a way that the final exam is meant as an outgrowth of the semester’s work.

Course Content

I. Literature
   A. Alfred’s Group Piano For Adults, Book I, by E.L. Lancaster and Kenon D. Renfrow.

II. Patterns for Keyboard Technique
   A. Single note patterns
      1. Major scales: two octaves, hands together
      2. Harmonic minor scales: two octaves, hands separately
   B. Chord patterns in Major and minor
      1. Chord sequence: I vi6 IV6 ii I V6 V4 I
         \[4 \quad 4 \quad 3\]
         \[4 \quad 2 \quad 5 \quad 3\]

III. Creative and Functional Use of Patterns
   A. Sight-reading
   B. Harmonization
   C. Pianistic variation to block chord accompaniment
   D. Improvise melodies over simple chord progressions
   E. Transposition of single-line melodies in either hand
**Proficiency Requirements** (combination of the midterm and final exams)

I. Literature

   A. Four pieces from various stylistic periods taken from the text (two pieces for the midterm exam and two pieces for the final exam). One of these pieces must be memorized.

II. Technique

   A. Major scales: hands together, two octaves.
   B. Harmonic Minor Scales: Hands together, two octaves.

III. Melodies and Harmonizations; Transposition

   A. Four harmonizations will be prepared during the semester (two during midterm exam; two during final exam). These harmonizations should be transposed in different keys and should display a variety of accompaniment patterns. These harmonizations will employ the chords vi and ii and V/IV and V/V. All four harmonizations will be memorized.

IV. Sight-Reading

   A. A piece of music with one voice in each hand simultaneously.

   B. Given a melody, harmonize it with appropriate chords in block position. Harmonization will include the chords vi and ii (midterm) and V/IV and V/V (final)