

Beginning Piano 2015-16 School Year

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Syllabus

Course Description:

This course is designed for the beginning player from grade 9 through 12 with little or no musical background. At the completion of one term .33 credits will be earned.

Course Requirements:

The student is not expected to have access to a piano or keyboard outside of class for continued practice; however, it is extremely beneficial in allowing the student to proceed at a quicker pace. The piano book DAVID CARR GLOVER'S ADULT PIANO STUDENT will be used as the text by the students for this class. This book may be purchased through the MPS Bookstore.

Basis for Grading:

A grade is given for the completion of an assigned song or song segment. **As a general rule of thumb, each student should complete one song or song segment per class day.** However, this is not always possible due to the level of difficulty of various songs. Unless given permission by the instructor for extended time, the highest attainable point total for a given song will decrease over the duration of extended practice. If a student is still working on an assignment following two complete 20 minute sessions, the highest attainable score will be set at 90%. Following each additional 20 minute segment the score will be reduced by 10% increments.

Each assignment must be played before a student may proceed to the next piece. If a student is having difficulty grasping the musical concepts presented by the instructor then approximately every fourth class a quiz will be given on the musical information covered.

The student's grades will be entered online into our internet grade book by the beginning of the next class. Students are advised to save a copy in their server folders of all graded work generated by computer and a hard copy of all other work. In the event of a missing assignment, the burden of proof that the assignment was completed by the deadline rests with the student. Students should also save all graded and returned papers in case of a grade question.

The points system is used with the following requirements:

A=	93-100	10 pt Lesson	20 = 200 pts
B+=	90-92	20 pt Quiz	06 = 120 pts
B=	85-89	50 pt Final	01 = 50 pts
C+=	82-84	30 pt participation	<u>01 = 30 pts</u>
C=	75-81	(based on proper use of time)	Total 400 pts*
D=	70-74		

* Total points will vary due to the number of completed songs and the total days of absence.

TEACHING LEARNING UNIT

BEGINNING PIANO

Objectives: By the end of the term each student should be able to:

1. Display correct posture and finger position technique.
2. Present basic knowledge of the following musical notations and symbols:
 - Treble and Bass Clefs
 - Grand Staff
 - Notation; The Eight Note through to the Whole Note
 - Time Signatures
 - Accidentals
3. Play musically, i.e. with expression.
4. Display characteristics listed and outlined in the Creative Arts goals and objectives section of the course description booklet.

Outline: Day 1 Students are taught the rudiments of notation and conclude by familiarization at the keyboard through the learning of how to play “Merrily We Roll Along”.

Day 2 Students will be taught and will apply rhythmic dictation. Students perform in groups of 3 “Merrily We Roll Along” for the entire class as an exercise in manual dexterity and organized rhythm. The students then begin to learn another group song, “Jingle Bells”.

Day 3 Students perform in groups of 3 “Jingle Bells” for the entire class as another exercise in manual dexterity and organized rhythm. The students then begin to practice at their own pace with the instructor monitoring their progress and assessing each individual’s performance on a given piece.

Students continue individual performances until the end of the term. They will also be weekly assessed on the rudiments of music notation and symbols.