

MUSA 310, 2 credits
Mesa State College Department of Music
Accompanying Techniques Syllabus - Fall '09 semester

Professor: Dr. Arthur Houle
Office: MPAC 130
Office hours: as posted on door
Phone: 970.248.1069
Class hours (MPAC 130): TBA

I. Scope of course & goals:

Intended for pianists with requisite skills. Some repertory will be played purely for sight-reading experience; other work(s) will be studied more deeply, and other(s) performed publicly. Rehearsal protocols and techniques, stylistic awareness, ensemble interaction, and interpretive elements such as pedaling, articulation, balance, etc. will be covered. Basic goals:

- 1) Study vocal & instrumental collaborative repertory via preparation & performance of varied repertory.
- 2) Better understand various types of accompanying (score reading, figured bass, one-on-one, etc.).
- 3) Improve listening, sight-reading and other basic piano skills.

II. Expectation:

High level of preparation of piece(s) selected for special study and/or performance. Students should commit to some *team* practice every week (with collaborative partners), along with solo practice to get the basics (notes, fingerings, dynamics, etc.) mastered. Assignments will be consistent with each student's abilities, goals and potential. At least one performance in public (e.g., recital hour) & one for someone else's jury is required.

III. General Education Objectives:

Universal aspects of the arts, letters, social and natural sciences constitute the core of a baccalaureate education. To help ensure that educated people share some basic body of perception and knowledge, this course addresses the following general education objectives:

- Gain knowledge, through the study of music, of some of the origins of our culture & the existence of other cultures.
- Appreciate the uplifting spirit of mankind's artistic achievements and potential through the study and performance of great collaborative piano repertory.

IV. Course Format:

Weekly coachings. Also: discussion, readings, outlines of text material & written assignments.

V. Grading:

Preparation for class (reflecting the quantity and quality of practicing): **30%**
Performances: **60%** (The end products of your work are most important.)
Attendance: **10%** (Unexcused absences may lower your grade by one letter if work is not made up.)

VI. Borrowed items:

If you borrow any materials from my office library, you are responsible for returning (or reimbursing for cost, or replacing) all items in good condition by the end of the semester. Failure to do so will result in the withholding of your grade.

VII. Colorado Music Content Standards:

- A. 8.15 (1) Production of sound
- B. 8.15 (5, a, ii) Experience in the instrumental performances: solo, small and large ensembles.

VIII. Colorado Performance Based Standards:

- A. 5.1 Create a learning environment characterized by acceptable student behavior, efficient use of time, and disciplined acquisition of knowledge, skills, and understanding.
- B. 8.2 Develop, on the part of the students, positive behavior & respect for the rights of others, and those moral standards necessary for personal well-being.

IX. Accommodations for students with disabilities:

In coordination with Educational Access Services, reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified students with disabilities. Please meet with the instructor the first week of class to make arrangements. Nancy Conklin, the Coordinator of Educational Access Services, can be contacted at 248-1826, or in person in Houston Hall, Room 101.