

COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
MUSL 130 / 230 / 330 / 430
Piano
Fall 2019

Dr. Arthur Houle & Mrs. Lisa Bush (at her discretion, as needed)
Office MPAC 130
Office Hours: As posted on office door, or by appointment
Class time: TBA
Houle: 208.343.4320 Bush: 970.216.1022
ahoule@coloradomesa.edu lisabushpiano@yahoo.com

Course Description

Weekly lessons (one-on-one) on piano designed to improve piano and general musicianship skills in accordance with the [Piano Handbook](#).

Course Rationale

Through several semesters of study, piano majors and minors will ultimately gain skills and knowledge necessary for playing the piano. For piano majors and minors, these skills and knowledge will be required for future employment as a professional performer, independent teacher, and/or institutional educator. Similarly, electives will gain piano skills commensurate with their abilities and goals.

Method Books, Music, and Student Responsibilities

Assigned music/materials will vary in accordance with each student's ability level as well as individual needs and goals. Items borrowed from the Houle/Bush office library must be returned (or reimbursed for cost, or replaced) by semester's end (unless music is needed for upcoming semesters). Students should also expect that materials might need to be purchased from time to time. Students must abide by all requirements set forth in the [Music Handbook](#) and, as applicable, the [Piano Handbook](#).

Course Objectives and Outcomes

As a result of several consecutive years of applied piano study, majors and minors (and, to a lesser extent, electives) will become well-rounded performers, able to proficiently perform (and, ideally: embellish, improvise and/or compose) stylistically varied solo and collaborative piano repertory.

Program Student Learning Outcomes:

Institutional:

The CMU baccalaureate degree graduate will be able to:

- Construct a summative project, paper or [practiced-based performance](#) that draws on current research, scholarship and/or techniques, and specialized knowledge in the discipline (applied learning; specialized knowledge).
- Identify assumptions, evaluate hypotheses or alternative views, articulate implications, and formulate conclusions (intellectual skills – critical thinking). *Assessment: End-of-semester jury performance (majors and minors).*

Program/Department level:

Develop and express music judgments through solo performance. (Critical Thinking)
Assessment: End-of-semester jury performance (majors and minors).

Specific to this course -- Piano majors and minors:

Upon completion of this course, students must be able to:

- Perform piano literature at appropriate venues and level(s) as applicable in the [Piano Handbook](#) (see [Student Resources www.coloradomesa.edu/music/StudentResources.html](#)).
- Demonstrate/present, as applicable, other requirements (theory/technique, piano proficiencies, accompanying, Capstone Presentation, and/or Senior Recital) as stipulated in the [Piano Handbook](#).

Non-piano majors/minors (electives or music majors/minors whose principal instrument is not piano):

Non-piano majors/minors can only enroll in Piano if they have completed the piano proficiency, enrolled simultaneously in a music ensemble (e.g., piano ensemble), or gotten special permission by the Music Dept. Head & Dir. of Keyboard Studies.

Grading for electives enrolled in MUSL 130-430 reflects the quality of demonstrations of progress on assignments based on individual abilities, potential, goals and/or program requirements. End-of-semester juries are at the discretion of the instructor. If a jury is not required, however, students should expect to demonstrate accomplishments at their Final Exam.

CMU General Expectations Statement (see also "Recommended Practice" below):

An undergraduate student should expect to spend on this course a minimum of two hours outside the classroom for every hour in the classroom. The outside hours may vary depending on the number of credit hours or type of course. More details are available from the faculty member or department office and in CMU's [Curriculum Policies and Procedures Manual](http://www.coloradomesa.edu/facsenate/documents/CurriculumPoliciesandProceduresManualApril262012.pdf) (<http://www.coloradomesa.edu/facsenate/documents/CurriculumPoliciesandProceduresManualApril262012.pdf>).

Course Format

Two-credit: One-hour weekly lessons. One-credit: Half-hour weekly lessons.

Musician's Safety and Health

The CMU Music Department is committed to informing students of health and safety issues inherent to performing and listening to music. This includes but is not limited to students taking responsibility for safely maintaining hearing, vocal and musculoskeletal health as well as injury prevention. While these topics will be addressed during applied lessons and master classes, ultimately it is the responsibility of each student to take action.

Withdrawal Statement

Regular class attendance is expected. CMU is required by law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in Federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through other funding sources. CMU is responsible for identifying students who have not attended or logged into a class for which they are registered. At the conclusion of the second week of a semester, instructors will report any registered students who have "Never Attended" a class so that those reported students will be administratively withdrawn from that class. However, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw, using the appropriate CMU form, from any class which she/he is no longer attending or risk receiving a failing grade in that class. Students wishing to withdraw must complete and submit the appropriate CMU form to the Registrar's Office by the established withdrawal deadline found on CMU's website.

General Student Services

Educational Access Services: If you are a student with a documented physical or learning disability and need an accommodation for this class, you must contact the Educational Access Services Office, 248-1856, at the start of the semester.

Tutorial Learning Center: TLC in HH 113

The TLC is a FREE academic service for all Colorado Mesa University students. Tutors are available on a walk-in basis for many courses. Do you have a quick question? Do you need homework clarification or feedback on a paper? Are you reviewing for a test? Help is available at the TLC!

At the main campus, come to Houston Hall 113 to meet with one of our friendly peer tutors. We are open on Monday through Thursday from 8am-6pm, and Fridays from 8am-5pm. We are also open Sundays from 1pm-6pm! Tutoring at branch campuses and distance tutoring is also available. Check out the website for schedules and locations at www.coloradomesa.edu/tutoring or call 248-1392 with any questions.

The Writing Center HH 223

The Writing Center serves students across all disciplines and various stages of the writing process. We provide support for students to assimilate into the writing conventions of the university and their specific academic disciplines. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday 10-5 pm. Tutoring in writing will be located at branch campus also. Workshops for students in APA/MLA and English Language Learner small group tutoring are available.

Research Assistance at the Tomlinson Library:

CMU's librarians love helping students find the right books and articles for any purpose, and will help you understand assignments and cite the articles and images that you use in your papers. We are here for you!

Find us: in the Library at the Research Help Desk; 24/7 at coloradomesa.edu/library; by email at library@coloradomesa.edu; or at 970.248.1860.

Student Services: The Office of Student Services works to support CMU students in all aspects of college life, by offering a vast array of services, resources and programs that make each student's time at Colorado Mesa University as exciting and successful as possible. Student Services works collaboratively with faculty, students, and staff to create a campus community that fosters the growth of students as strong individuals and productive citizens. To learn more, go to <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/student-services>.

Financial Aid: Financial aid staff is dedicated to assisting you in sorting through the various forms of student financial aid. We believe that by helping you take advantage of a variety of available resources, you will find an education at Colorado Mesa University is attainable. Our office is located in the lower level of Lowell Heiny Hall, Room 116. Our phone number is (970) 248-1396, or you may contact us via email at financialaid@coloradomesa.edu.

Advising Center: Advisors can assist students with course selection and registration, major exploration, and identifying strategies for academic success. The Advising Center is committed to promoting academic success and in facilitating students to attain their educational goals. We are located in Lowell Heiny Hall, on the lower level, room 127. Our phone number is (970)248-1177, or toll free at 1-800-982-6372 (option #7 or extension 1177). Our FAX number is (970)248-1267. You can also reach us via email at advising@coloradomesa.edu. Appointments are scheduled from 9:00 to 4:00, Monday through Friday. Please call a week or two in advance of your desired appointment date to schedule. Bring your picture ID, as failure to do so may result in a rescheduled appointment.

Business and Financial Services Office: The Business and Financial Services Office is located in the lower level of Lowell Heiny Hall. Our staff is available to assist you Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, MST. Our phone number is (970)248-1567, our FAX number is (970)248-1136, or you may contact us via email at businessoffice@coloradomesa.edu.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

All faculty, administration, and students of Colorado Mesa University have a responsibility for establishing and fostering an understanding of the importance of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to representing work of others as your own without proper acknowledgment, giving or receiving assistance on exams, papers, projects, or assignments unless authorized to do so; and misrepresenting your identity or allowing others to do so. Incidents should be reported to the instructor of the course if possible, or contact the Academic Department Head. Actions may be taken as a result of academic dishonesty. For more details, see the Maverick Guide at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/student-services/documents/MaverickGuide.pdf>.

Grading

• 50%: Cumulative points earned from weekly lessons:

- **Exceptional progress** on ALL assignments..... 2 points*
- **Satisfactory discernible progress** on assignments..... 1 point
- **Little or no discernible progress**..... 0
- **Attend weekly optional Musicianship Class (W 4-4:30 PM)**..... 1/2 point
- **Sit in on another lesson (with student's permission), write a 1-p. account of what learned, and submit**..... 1 point per hr.

*Contingent on submitting by email a "snapshot" sound clip demonstrating progress in practicing, preferably by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th day of practice for that week.
(First day of practice = same day as lesson.)

• **40 to 50%: Performances** - Jury and/or Capstone Presentation and/or Senior Recital and/or Student Recital(s) and/or Final Exam, etc. as stipulated in the [Piano Handbook](#) and this syllabus.

• **Up to 10%: Other (misc.)** – Other factors that may affect grading:

- **Attendance (see below for policy)**

- **Scale Exam (see below): Failure to pass will result in 1 to 5 deducted points**
- See also "Supplementary of remedial activities" below

Scale Exam Day: Oct. 30, 2019 [required of piano MAJORS only]

New:

Students now have the option to pass the scale exam by submitting a video in advance of the scale exam day. Video must clearly show hands so that correct fingerings can be confirmed. Consult with instructor re: specifics of what the video must demonstrate.

At a minimum, students must demonstrate proficiency with:

- M and m scales
- M and m arpeggios
- M and m cadences

Time permitting, these may additionally be tested:

- Blues scales
- Other technique/theory tailored to the goals of the class

Attendance Policy

Absences result in points not earned, thereby impacting grades. Moreover, after **3 absences**, instructor may **lower a final grade by one letter per absence**. **Three tardies** count as **one absence**.

Prompt attendance at every lesson is expected. Instructor will make every effort to be flexible about scheduling & making up lessons PROVIDING rescheduling is needed for valid reasons (e.g., class conflict, university-sponsored event, verifiable illness or emergency) AND students notify the instructor as far in advance as possible before the scheduled lesson. Students are responsible for maintaining progress despite absences and completing whatever remedial work is necessary (see below for remedial activities beyond extra practicing).

Any lesson(s) missed by the instructor will be made up. If, due to extenuating circumstances, this cannot be done, some leeway in grading may be afforded if deemed appropriate.

Mandatory "Prep" Work on New Pieces (within 1st few weeks of classes), as applicable to repertory:

- 1) Pencil in fingerings
- 2) Mark in "blocks" (chord and/or finger position brackets)
- 3) Identify all chords using jazz "fake chart" symbols
- 4) Mark in phrases
- 5) Identify the form of each piece and mark off the sections

Recommended Minimum Daily Practice:

All students: Approx. **1/4 to 1/3 of practicing** (15-20 min. per hr.) should be on **technique/theory/proficiencies**.

- **Piano Majors** (2 cr.):
 - **Performance emphasis: 2 hrs.**, 6 days a week = **12 hrs. weekly**.
 - **Other piano majors (Lib. Arts/ESB/Mus Ed): 90 min.**, 6 days a week = **9 hrs. weekly**.
 - First week of class: All piano majors must submit a written schedule plan for daily practice in a typical week.
 - Strongly recommended: Memorize a minimum of **8** measures of a repertory work every week -- memorize L.H. part alone first, then R.H. part, then hands together.
- **Music Majors/Minors** (principal instrument is *not* piano) & **Piano Minors** (1 cr.):
 - 1 hr.**, 5 days a week = **5 hrs. weekly**.
 - Recommended: Memorize a minimum of **4** measures of a repertory work every week - memorize L.H. part alone first, then R.H. part, then hands together.
- **Electives** (1 cr.): **45 min.**, 5 days a week = **3¾ hrs. weekly**.

Supplementary or Remedial Activities*

*To improve weekly grade in the event of a close call or to mitigate excess absences/tardies, etc.:

- Public performances beyond required (recital, master class, festival, competition, etc.).
- Attend or participate in weekly Master Classes when offered.
- Attend or participate in worthwhile professional activity (e.g., pedagogy conference).
- Perform informally (e.g., campus functions, senior citizen facilities, etc.).
- Sit in on other students' lessons – 1 point (see above).
- Play works in progress for other students; give each other constructive suggestions for improvement.
- Record piece(s) in progress; bring recording to a lesson, along with a written analysis (positive observations and list of what needs improvement).
- Record a lesson; review during the week. Submit written commentary (What was learned? What's good? What needs improving? Anything not understood?, etc.).
- Listen to & submit outline of the main points of an approved master class recording or DVD/video.
- Read approved article, book (or chapter) dealing with appropriate music/piano issues (practice tips, pedagogy, historical, analytical, etc.) and submit short report on things learned.

Final Jury

All music majors and minors must perform a jury for department faculty at the end of each semester. The jury serves to demonstrate the student's mastery of the materials covered for that semester. It should be treated as if it were a recital performance, so prepare well and wear appropriate attire. Failure to perform a jury will result in an automatic failure for the course. Electives (non-piano majors/minors) are not required to play a jury, but are encouraged to do so nonetheless for the experience. If electives opt to do a jury, the jury will not lower their grade – it can only maintain or improve the final grade.

Recital Hour/Studio Master Class and Concert Attendance

All music majors are required to attend the weekly recital hour or studio master class at 3:00 PM every Wednesday. Music majors are also required to attend approved concerts each semester they are enrolled as full-time students. Please consult the Music Student Handbook for the exact policy; completion of this requirement is tracked via your registration in MUSA 101. In addition, all music majors enrolled in applied piano are required to perform during a recital hour or master class at least once each semester (exception: 1st semester of study). Please wear professional concert attire for recital-hour performances (i.e. dress shirt and slacks/skirt, no jeans, no t-shirts). Failure to perform on a recital hour during the semester will result in a full letter grade drop for the semester.

Required CMU addendum for 130-230 levels:

YOUR SUCCESS AT COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY OR WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The faculty and staff are glad you have elected to attend Colorado Mesa University or Western Colorado Community College and want you to succeed in achieving your academic goals. The following information is shared with you to enhance the likelihood that you will be successful.

1. Attend class.

Institutional research shows that class attendance and participation are closely linked to your success as a student (i.e., the better your attendance, the better your grade is likely to be). When you are always present, you will understand the course content and how it contributes to your growth as a college student. You are required to attend this class regularly, adhering to the attendance policy established in this course syllabus by your instructor. Additionally, you should review the Attendance Policy of the institution's [Catalog](#) for further details on expectations. For online courses, check with your instructor and/or class syllabus for expectations delivered in that format.

2. Prepare for and participate in class.

It takes more than showing up for class to succeed. You need to be prepared to actively participate in class. Your instructor has given you a schedule of course topics for the semester, along with readings and/or activities that should be completed prior to coming to class. If you aren't clear about these expectations, talk with your instructor. In general, you should follow the 2:1 rule: two hours of study/homework time for every 1 hour of classroom time. This can vary some from week to week, but on average, most instructors will assume you are putting in the time and keeping pace with the class. So make the effort to stay current and don't leave everything to the end of the term.

By meeting deadlines and managing your time wisely, you will get much more from the class and earn higher grades. Assume that faculty members will not accept late homework and don't offer extra credit assignments. Some may – and by reviewing the syllabus you will know their policies – but instructors have no obligation to do so. A final note. If you need help with study skills, time management, note-taking and the like, consider registering for SUPP 101, a course that helps first-year students with their transition to college life.

3. Use technology to support your success.

All members of this class are expected to show respect to each other and to contribute to a positive academic learning environment of the class. Please turn off cellphones or set them to silent when you are in class. Text messaging, checking email, working on social networking sites, and performing non-class related activities on any electronic device (cell phone, laptop, iPad, etc.) is disruptive and not acceptable behavior during the class session. Check your course syllabus for the consequence of using these devices during class time.

4. Take advantage of campus resources.

We offer numerous academic support resources to help you. The staff of [Tomlinson Library](#) can assist you with finding information resources either in person or online. The [Tutorial Learning Center](#) offers *free, walk-in* tutoring for a wide variety of subjects. Maybe it's just a math problem that's not making sense, or perhaps having a peer take a look at your assignment is what you need. The TLC can help with the smallest issue or provide you with tutoring if you have a particularly challenging course. Get help before a small problem becomes a big one. Stop by and see the services they offer, most of which are provided by other students. If your semester gets a little overwhelming, contact the [Office of Student Services](#) for assistance. Need to engage in some activity outside of classes? Stop by the [Maverick Center](#) for a good workout, or find students with some similar interests by joining a [student club](#).

5. Build relationships with your instructors, advisor, and other students.

- a. Your best guidance for success will come from your instructors, and research tells us that your interactions with faculty members is the most important determinate in college success. Instructors genuinely want you to be successful and will do what they can to help you reach your goals. Locate their contact information on the syllabus and store that information in your phone. Each instructor keeps office hours that they set aside to meet with students. If you cannot meet during their office hours, schedule an appointment in advance. For more information on why you should get to know your instructor, go to *Why You Should Meet Your College Professors* at: <http://www.cliffsnotes.com/Section/id-310989,articleId-122943.html>.
- b. Plan to meet with your advisor at least once a semester. At a minimum, consult with your advisor on your schedule for the next semester before registration opens. Popular required courses fill quickly, so if you delay registration, you might not get your preferred courses and could possibly delay your graduation. Advisors provide valuable assistance in determining which courses you need to take for your degree and the best order to take courses. Advisors can also direct you to the most appropriate networks when you are in need of assistance.

If you do not know the name of your advisor, log into MAVzone:

<http://luminis.mesastate.edu/cp/home/loginf> and click on the Student Academics tab. Scroll down the Academic Profile column to Advisors; directly email your advisor by clicking on the envelope icon.

- c. Connect with other students in all your classes. You and your peers have similar goals and will face similar challenges; this can help you feel less alone in solving problems. Being active in a study group can enrich your understanding of course materials and can provide extra motivation and support to succeed. Learn more about the value of creating a study group at *Fight for First Year in College: Form Study Groups* at: http://www.academytips.org/acad/first_y_i_c/formstudygroups.html

6. Use financial aid wisely.

Be aware that your decisions about attending class and considering whether to add or drop a class can affect your financial aid. Discuss potential changes with your advisor before making them. You must complete at least 12 credit hours each semester to be considered full-time, often a requirement to receive financial aid. Part-time students should check with the [Office of Financial Aid](#) for credit hour requirements. Audited classes do not count for enrollment purposes.

To retain your aid for the next term, you are required to make satisfactory academic progress toward your degree and maintain the following minimum grade point averages below. **If you receive all F's for one term, you will be suspended from financial aid and must repay all Title IV funds.**

Cumulative Credit Hours Earned	Minimum GPA
1 to 15	1.70
16 to 30	1.80
31 to 45	1.90
46+	2.00

To remain eligible to receive financial aid, students must be successfully completing 75% of classes attempted. Aid will be suspended until the student successfully increases the completion rate to 75%. Be sure to report any changes in your enrollment, residency status, or receipt of additional resources in writing to the Office of Financial Aid. Financial aid is not available if you have not graduated from your program but exceed the total undergraduate cumulative hours as show below.

Baccalaureate degree:	170 hours
Associate degree:	80 hours
One-year certificate:	40 hours