

2014

## MUSC 280-01 Piano Lesson

Tami Morris

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# Piano Lesson Syllabus

## Fall 2014

Contact Info: Tami Morris, Adjunct Professor of Piano and Accompanying  
Cell Phone: 513-377-8367 (only way to reach me on lesson day)  
Home Studio Phone: 513-624-6177  
Music Office Phone: 513-745-3801  
Email: tami\_morris@hotmail.com (I don't have access to email while at XU)

Goals: My goals are for you to learn and/or improve upon already existing rhythm and note-reading skills through use of a traditional lesson book or classical music at the appropriate level. We may also use scales and other technical exercises to develop good hand position and arm/wrist use. For students at certain levels there may be a short theory assignment each week. I also want to help you meet your own personal goals, so we will discuss how we can incorporate those as well.

Practice: Students taking 30-minute lessons should aim for 30 minutes per day, 5 days per week. Students taking 60-minute lessons should aim for 60 minutes per day, 5 days per week. If you are unable to get to a piano on some days, look at your music anyway. Beginners can strengthen note-reading skills by tapping rhythms, thinking through the note names and what was learned at the last lesson. More advanced students can analyze thematic relationships and harmonic subtleties. Time spent thinking about your music away from the piano can help your time at the piano to be more productive.

Practice Journal: This will count for 10% of your grade. I will check it each week. It is to be turned in every four weeks. The purpose of this is to help you organize your thoughts and focus during your practice sessions, and for me to have some insight into your practice habits so that I may be better able to help you.

Grades: Each lesson will be graded on attendance, progress on weekly assignments, and completion of the Practice Journal. If you have good attendance, show progress each week, and complete the Practice Journal, you will get a good grade. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of "F" for that day. The Practice Journal will constitute 10% of each lesson's grade.

Absences: Excused absences include sickness and family emergency. There will be no grade for that day. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of "F" for that day. An excessive number of missed lessons will result in a low grade. If you are canceling on the day of the lesson, please call my cell phone.

Supplies: I will provide materials and have you reimburse me directly. If you have a metronome, please use it. If you already have music that you want to learn, we may be able to use that as well.

Hand Care: Fingernails must be kept short to maintain correct hand position and technique.