I. INTRODUCTION

A. This course serves as an introduction to the piano by learning basic keyboard skills through a “hands-on” study of piano technique and rudimentary musical language.

B. Class Piano I is a required course for non-piano Music majors in the music curriculum and is also a recommended elective for non-music majors. The course is designed to foster curiosity and technical advancement in an enjoyable, yet challenging atmosphere.

C. No experience is necessary for admittance to the course. If the student has any musical experience prior to this course, they must have instructor approval before enrollment.

D. Alphanumeric coding used throughout the syllabus denoted the integration of SCANS occupational competencies (C) and Foundation skills (F).

II LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Utilize the most elementary aspects of piano technique, such as 5 finger patterns, major scales, and chords.

2. Provide harmonic improvisation to given melodic excerpts.

3. Establish good practice habits.

4. Develop mental and physical coordination.

5. Increase memory power.

6. Increase concentration power.

7. Develop musical sensitivity.
8. Develop listening ability.

9. C5, C18, C19, F11

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through www.ctcd.edu/books

B. Equipment and Materials:

1. Pencils (ink pens are unnecessary and discourage)
2. Music Staff Paper
3. Notebook paper
4. Notebook/3-ring binder

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. To attend class regularly and promptly.
2. To obtain class notes from classmates in case of absence.
3. To make up missed class work immediately.
4. To participate in classroom discussions and activities.
5. Practice approximately 5 hours per week.

V. EXAMINATIONS

A. Two major SKILLS TESTS and a final SKILLS TESTS each preceded by in class review, are to be given during the semester.

SKILLS TESTS will require the performance of specific in-class technical skills, such as 5 finger patterns, major scales, and chords. SKILLS TESTS will eventually demand the execution of basic sight-reading materials and prepared pieces.

Evaluation will be based on three basic criteria:

1. Speed
2. Efficiency (the number of mistakes and how many times a sections is repeated before sufficiency is realized)
3. Student preparation
B. **A student must be present for all examinations.** No make-up exams will be given. Students who know in advance they will be absent from a **SKILLS TEST** due to valid reasons must arrange to take an early examination. Unexpected absences due to illness or extenuating circumstance will require the student to see the instructor about individual make-up work in lieu of the missed examination.

C. **Students without excused absences will be given a A0'' (zero) for the missed examination.**

VI. **SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SKILLS TEST I</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKILLS TEST II</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL SKILLS TEST</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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VII. **NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM COURSE INSTRUCTOR**

A. **Course Withdrawal:** It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must, officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file a Central Texas College Application for Withdrawal (CTC Form 59). The withdrawal form must be signed by the student.

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is:

- 10-week session: Friday of the 8th week
- 8-week session: Friday of the 6th week
- 5-week session: Friday of the 4th week

The equivalent date (75% of the semester) will be used for sessions of other lengths. The specific last day to withdraw is published each semester in the Schedule Bulletin.

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of “W” provided the student’s attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of “F” or “FN” for nonattendance.

B. **Administrative Withdrawal:** An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.
C. **Incomplete Grade:** The College catalog states, An incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the coursework but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course. Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of “I” for Incomplete is recorded. A student who merely fails to show for the final examination will receive a zero for the final and an “F” for the course.

D. **Cellular Phones and Beepers:** Cellular phones and beepers will be turned off while the student is in the classroom or laboratory.

E. **American’s With Disabilities Act (ADA):** Disability Support Services provides services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at [www.ctcd.edu/disability-support](http://www.ctcd.edu/disability-support) for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

F. **Instructor Discretion:** The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

G. **Civility:** Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

H. **Guests in Classrooms:** Adult guests may visit a class with the prior permission of the instructor. Children are not to be brought to any class or the studio areas.

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**VIII. COURSE OUTLINE**

A. **Lesson One:**

1. **Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this lesson the student will be able to demonstrate an ability to:

   1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of whole/half step intervals
   2. Identify names of keys on the piano
   3. Demonstrate an understanding of correct posture and hand position
   4. Execute simple melodies while accompanied by instructor
   5. Practice technical skills (5-finger patterns; major and minor)
2. **Learning Outcomes:**

   1. Lecture, discussion, and demonstration
   2. Music listening (to recordings and instructor)
   3. Class performance of simple technical and musical elements
   4. Individual work (practice with headphones)
   5. Class ensembles (accompanying each other, playing melodies together, etc)
   6. Practice 5-finger patterns and cadence

*Each class will begin with warm up drills designed to facilitate technical proficiency, as well as fun and relaxation. The warm up is essential to the students’ enjoyment of this course. Without proper technical warm up, a student may begin to experience slight pain in arms unaccustomed to the keyboard experience.

(C5, C18, C19, F11)

3. **Equipment and Materials:**

   1. Keyboards and headphones
   2. Instructor prepared hand-outs
   3. Instructor’s disc for keyboard

4. **Audio Visual Aids:**

   As appropriate

5. **Lesson Outline:**

   1. Perform technical studies
   2. Listen to repertoire
   3. Perform repertoire individually and as an ensemble

**B. Lesson Two:**

1. **Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this lesson the student will be able to demonstrate an ability to:

   1. Audibly identify various meter/beat groupings (4/4, 3/4, etc)
   2. Count aloud while playing melodies
   3. Perform white key major scales and cadence
   4. Identify and perform triads built on white key major scale steps.
   5. Perform assigned pieces
2. **Learning Activities:**

   1. Class ensembles (playing together)
   2. Performance of pieces by students
   3. Prepare technical studies (major scales and cadence)

   (C5, C18, C19, F11)

3. **Equipment and Materials:**

   1. Keyboards and headphones
   2. Instructor prepared hand outs
   3. Instructor’s disc for keyboard

4. **Audio Visual Aids:**

   As appropriate

5. **Lesson Outline:**

   1. Lecture/demonstration of meter/beats grouping.
   2. Lecture/demonstration of white key major scales
   3. Presentation/demonstration of assigned repertoire

C. **Lesson Three:**

1. **Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this lesson the student will be able to demonstrate an ability to:

   1. Perform simple melodies with choral accompaniment.
   2. Perform hands separately with correct fingering.
   3. Harmonize assigned melodies.
   4. Transpose simple pieces to nearby keys

2. **Learning Activities:**

   1. Class ensemble
   2. Music listening
   3. Sight reading exercises
   4. Individual practice time
   5. Student performances

   (C5, C18, C19, F11)
3. **Equipment and Materials:**

   1. Keyboards and headphones
   2. Instructor prepared hand outs
   3. Instructor’s disc for keyboard

4. **Audio Visual Aids:**

   As appropriate

5. **Lesson Outline:**

   1. Demonstration of monody
   2. Practice time allotted for student performances
   3. Lecture/demonstration of transposition