

## **APPLIED PIANO: 4600A**

**Spring 2020**

University of West Georgia

Dr. Carol Gingerich

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Office Hours as Posted (knock loudly)

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### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- 1) To encourage the development of musicality and expressiveness.
- 2) To establish helpful practice habits by specific lesson assignments and discussions.
- 3) To "polish" a few pieces to a high degree.
- 4) To "try out" several pieces to gain exposure to standard literature and to aid in sight reading development.
- 5) To increase knowledge of the use of the body (arm, forearm and torso) as related to healthy technique.
- 6) To increase knowledge of individual composers and performance style practices as related to interpretation.
- 7) To gain skills in Sight Reading through weekly assignments and tests.
- 8) To encourage the development of independent learners who become the center of their own learning, through experimentation at lessons with practice methods which the student then utilizes during the following week's practice. Reminders of these practice methods will often be written in the lesson notebook.
- 9) To informally begin to develop personalized approaches to "mindfulness" as an aid in dealing with stress and performance anxiety.
- 10) To prepare for the Half, Full, or Hearing-in-Lieu of Recital.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

The Brown Scale Book - published by Frederick Harris Music

4 Star Sight Reading and Ear Training, by Boris Berlin, Frederick Harris Music Company (assigned level)

Lesson Notebook (used in daily practicing and brought to each lesson)

Pencil/ Access to a stapler (\$1 at dollar store)/Metronome

Repertoire Books as assigned:

**—edition must be approved by Dr. Gingerich, generally urtext**

-photocopies or IMSLP print outs are not permitted as a permanent substitute. **Each lesson after the indicated due date which you attend without the approved score, will earn a reduction of 2 points out of 7 for your lesson grade.**

Places to Order Music  
(in general say “hold until complete”)

1. JW Pepper 1-800-345-6296 [www.PianoAtPepper.com](http://www.PianoAtPepper.com) (Shawn Morris UWG alumnus)
2. Online Only [www.sheetmusicplus.com](http://www.sheetmusicplus.com) \*\* highly recommended!

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### 1) Repertoire

To be determined by the student and the professor to fit the individual student's growth and interests. During the academic year one piece from each of the four standard periods should be learned. Assigned repertoire and technique level is adjusted to fit the varying needs of students, and to create progressive advancement in level. *Ability to read the score and learn pitch and rhythm accurately and independently, rather than copying the work of others, is an important factor in repertoire choice and the development of creative and unique artistry.* Additional repertoire information for Level Change and Recitals is given below and in a separate document.

#### 2) Practice Requirements

Students registered for two credits must practice two hours/day for 6 days of the week (12 hrs/wk). Students registered for one credit must practice one hour per day for 6 days of the week (6 hrs/wk). (3 credits is 18 hrs/week). Students performing a Level Change or Recital will need to add to these times. The most important practice day is the SAME day as your lesson so that you can remember what occurred. FOLLOW THE PLAN IN YOUR LESSON NOTEBOOK. Please feel free to stop by and see me if you have any questions in between your lessons. It is very important to follow the practice plan established at the lesson and recorded in your lesson notebook. Remember, practice does NOT make perfect, but rather "PERFECT practice makes perfect (Robert Pace)". This is a recommended practice plan:

1. OBSERVE what was correct and incorrect.
2. DIAGNOSE why things were incorrect.
3. PRESCRIBE how to fix the problem.
4. EXECUTE the prescription.
5. EVALUATE its effectiveness.

#### 3) Attendance Policy

Students must be punctual and attend all lessons. Students who miss lessons for any reason, including the instructor's absence, are not automatically entitled to make-up lessons. Please do NOT knock at your lesson time, I will simply open the door.

UWG provides excellent resources to students, and if you need to be absent, and wish to inform me of your circumstances, you may confer with a UWG Professional designated and trained to provide ongoing assistance in your area of need:

- a) Physical Health: Health Services Patient Advocate (Jill Hendricks, Corey Hindman, Jamie Gaddy)
- b) Emotional Health: UWG Cares: [www.westga.edu/UWGCares](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares)
- c) Academic:(time management, learning disabilities): Center for Academic Success (UCC)
- d) Miscellaneous: Dr. Hibbard (funerals); Dean of Students Office: [www.westga.edu/vpsa](http://www.westga.edu/vpsa)
- e) UWG music instructor concerning date and time of departure for an ensemble tour or conference.

**Please note: communication regarding absences is via email only. Dr. Gingerich is well qualified to assist with musical and pianistic problems. But for reasons of confidentiality and in order to obtain the best professional advice, assistance for situations which are non-musical or non- pianistic must be provided by one of the UWG professional listed above.**

#### **4) Concert Attendance**

Studio members are expected to support other pianists by attending CREDIT RECITAL performances by other piano students.

#### **5) GENERAL: Level Change, Credit Recital and Hearing-in-Lieu-of Recital Policies**

##### **a) Pre-Hearing**

It is best to receive Dr. Gingerich's permission and indication that you are ready to perform AND pass your hearing, in order that respect is given to the time of the two other faculty committee members.

##### **6) SPECIFIC: Pre-Hearing Procedures: Level Change, Credit Recital, Hearing-in-Lieu-of - Recital**

**a)** During your regular lesson during the week which is two weeks prior to your recital hearing, you must book Cashen Hall and perform your pre-hearing in its entirety.

**b)** Should a portion of the repertoire not pass the pre-hearing, a maximum of 3 minutes of unprepared technique or repertoire (Level Change), a maximum of 5 minutes of unprepared music (Half Recital, Hearing-in-Lieu-of-Recital), or 10 minutes (Full Recital) may be performed at your regularly scheduled lesson during the week which is one week prior to the hearing. At this lesson Dr. Gingerich should indicate that these 3, 5 or 10 minutes of music is now at a passing level, in order to successfully perform your Level Change or hearing.

##### **7) Committee Establishment Policy**

45 days prior to your Level Change or Recital Hearing you must secure the date, time, location, and committee members. This is ENTIRELY your responsibility. In addition to myself you will need two committee members (choice someone supportive). Both your repertoire and dates must be approved by me.

## 8) Recital Preparation: A. Performance Majors

### *UWG Departmental Policy*

Half Recital: 20-30 minutes of repertoire; must pass Hearing 2 weeks prior to recital date

Full Recital: 40-60 minutes of repertoire; must pass Hearing 2 weeks prior to recital date

### Recital Preparation: Performance Majors

#### REQUIRED

a) Preparing for a public recital is an exciting and demanding undertaking requiring much preparation in advance so that the performer can fully explore the interpretive depths of the music, and competently communicate the musical meaning to the audience. Advance preparation is needed in order for memorization to become internalized, for technical habits to develop naturally, and to allow time for performing experiences in other venues. These methods of recital preparation are utilized by the best concert pianists around the world.

b) In order to provide the preparation time needed for Half and Full Recitals, UWG performance majors are required to prepare the following minimum number of minutes of NEW repertoire [not performed in public the previous semester (s)] during the indicated semester of Principal Applied study. This repertoire may include repeated sections as indicated in the score, or ensemble music as approved by the recital Hearing committee. The number of minutes is calculated based upon anticipated final performance tempi. These requirements are in addition to those listed elsewhere in this syllabus.

	<i># Minutes of New Repertoire</i>
Semester 1	Introduction. No specific number of minutes
Semester 2	5 minutes
Semester 3	10 minutes
Semester 4	5 minutes. Perform 20 minutes of repertoire for Level Change
Semester 5	15 minutes
Semester 6	5 minutes. Perform 20 minute Half Recital
Semester 7	15 minutes <b>*additional information in g) below</b>
Semester 8	5 minutes. Perform 40 minute Full Recital

c) Learning the number of minutes of new repertoire will be part of the lesson grade. This new repertoire will be incorporated into the lesson grade according to an individualized plan, mutually created by the student and Dr. Gingerich. The following is a typical plan:

Aug-Sept: All repertoire is learned and memorized incrementally with specific measure numbers chosen for each lesson.

Oct-Nov: Two pieces (or 3-4 as indicated in the Jury category below) are chosen to polish and perform at the jury.

Repertoire which is not learned or memorized according to the individualized lesson plan, will earn a lower lesson grade for the particular lesson assigned. These policies exist to emphasize to students the utmost importance of the advance preparation needed for success for recitals; to provide a structured guideline and realistic timeline by which students can be successful; and most importantly, to create an environment in which students can gain pleasure and satisfaction in the preparation and performance of their recitals.

d) In order to learn the minimum number of minutes of repertoire, students will need to:

- i) practice using methods given at their lesson
- ii) practice the assigned number of hours listed in the syllabus
- iii) practice independently while continually evaluating themselves

e) **\*Half Recital-Level Change\***

**With permission of the principal applied instructor, a piano student's Level Change, having met all the repertoire requirements, may serve as the Hearing for the Half Recital, which if passed, may then be performed during the first semester of MUSC 4600A.**

f) **\*Half Recital Hearing\***

**All Performance music majors may choose to perform the Hearing for the Half Recital MUSC 4941 in the first semester of MUSC 4600.**

g) **\*Semester 7 (semester prior to Full Recital)**

By the end of semester the following requirements must be met in order to ENJOY and have a successful Full Recital:

-at least 30 minutes out of the total 40-60 minutes of repertoire must be performed from memory up to tempo, with interpretation optional.

-this 30 minutes will be broken into 3 parts of 10 minutes each (may be sections of a piece) which will be graded at a particular lesson in each of the months of Jan, Feb, and Mar. The performance must be at an A level in terms of memory and speed, and performances at less than an A level earn a lesson grade of 3 or lower out of 7. The student may choose the 10 minutes of repertoire and the particular performance lesson date in each of the 3 months. This sort of incremental preparation makes for a wonderful recital with a feeling of competence.

-the jury will consist of 15 minutes chosen from the above 30 minutes, performed up to tempo, from memory *and with interpretation*.

### **9) B. Recital Preparation: Composition and Music Education Majors**

OPTIONAL-students may choose to perform a recital after passing the Level Change in Semester 4, and with Dr. Gingerich's approval. Students who do not learn the required number of minutes, will not be eligible to perform a recital.

a) Same as category a) above for Performance majors.

b)	<i># Minutes New Repertoire</i>
Semester 1	No specific number of minutes
Semester 2	No specific number of minutes
Semester 3	No specific number of minutes
Semester 4	Perform Level Change
Semester 5	10 minutes

Semester 6	Composition: additional new repertoire as needed and perform 20 minute Half Recital Music Education: 5 minutes
Semester 7	Music Education: additional new repertoire as needed and perform recital

c) Same as category c) above for Performance majors.

### **10) Additional Information**

As appropriate, specific additional information is provided in separate documents for Level Changes and Recital Hearings.

### **11) Academic Policies**

Official communication will be via “my.westga.edu” accounts only.

Extra credit is permitted as indicated, but work created in other courses may not be utilized. Extra credit is granted after the completion of the requirements of this syllabus **and may not be utilized as a substitute for regular work.**

Written assignments must be typed using single-spaced 12 point font, 1” Left and Right margins, 1.5” top and bottom margins, and stapled in order to receive full credit. Hard copy written assignments, are due at the beginning of your lesson, and if are turned in late they receive a grade of zero (It is the student’s responsibility to consult the syllabus for due dates).

Contract By remaining a registered student in this course, the student agrees to the obligations set forth in this syllabus for the satisfactory completion of this course. Additional information is available at <http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies>

## **EVALUATION**

### **Lessons**

Each lesson will receive a grade out of 7% and the best 10 will be kept. It is expected that ALL assigned materials will have been practiced and that you are able to play them at a STEADY tempo, unless otherwise indicated. Excellent progress is indicated by having followed the assigned practice plan and having made progress towards those goals whether they be technical or interpretive.

### **Music 1000 Performance**

This is held on specific Mondays at 3:30 in Cashen Recital Hall. You must perform one time each semester and will receive a grade simply for doing this. You may view this as a "run through" for your jury. At the lesson prior to this performance, your piece must be “performance ready” in order to be allowed to perform, and Dr. Gingerich will submit the required form to the music dept office. Students enrolled in their first semester of applied study may arrange for an alternate project.

### **Jury**

This final exam is performed in front of the piano faculty. You will play your assigned technique and at least two memorized, contrasting repertoire pieces. For all majors, the semester prior to the

Level Change, Half or Full recital, or Hearing-in-Lieu of Recital, approximately 3-4 pieces or more, will be performed, based upon Dr. Gingerich's determination of the necessary preparation needed for these important performances.

### **Sight Reading**

Each week you will practice assigned pages in the Four Star Sight Reading book using the methodology described at your lesson. 3 times during the semester, USING YOUR BOOK, you will be tested at your lesson.

### **Studio Class**

Attendance is required for ALL students. For students not enrolled in MUSC 1000, more than one Unexcused Absence will result in the grade of F for the course.

### **Practice Log**

-3 (specific single week in Jan, Feb, Apr) each worth 1%

-may be handwritten; *due at BEGINNING of lesson*

-state:

i) date

ii) time started and ended practice (rounded to nearest denomination of 5)

iii) total hours for the week

### **Practice Chart**

-3 (specific single week in Feb, Mar, Apr) each worth 1%

-may be handwritten, or electronic but hard copy needs to be submitted *at BEGINNING of lesson*

-ROW across= musical objective (measure number, method of practice, number repetition)

-COLUMN down= day of week, check if completed or list number of repetitions

-template will be given

### **Grading**

Lessons (10 at 7% each) 70%

Music 1000 Performance 4%

Jury\* 10%

Sight Reading Tests (3, 2% each) 6%

Studio Class Attendance (1% each) 4%

Practice Logs (3, 1% each) 3%

Practice Charts (3, 1% each) 3%

Bonus Points (must be approved) 4 Bonus Points

(recruitment video, additional Recital Hour performance, accompanying, Destination Music, Scholars Day, etc, must be approved by Dr. Gingerich)

\*Failure to complete the jury will result in an automatic grade of F for the entire course unless you have an extreme emergency.

**\*Please note: final grades are entered into Banweb according to UWG requirements, and are NOT available early.**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Jan 6	Studio Class #1 Introduction to Syllabus
Jan 20	no lesson MLK Day
Jan 27-29	<b>Sight Reading Test #1</b> <b>Practice Log #1 due at lesson</b>
Feb 3	Studio Class #2
Feb 3-5	<b>Must Own Music-affects Lesson Grade</b>
Feb 10-12	<b>Practice Chart #1 due at lesson</b>
Feb 17	Destination Music Day 3:30 Cashen Hall
Feb 24-26	<b>Sight Reading Test #2</b> <b>Practice Log #2 due</b>
Mar 9	Studio Class #3
Mar 9-11	<b>Practice Chart #2 due</b>
Mar 16-18	Spring Break – no lessons
Apr 7 Tue	Scholars Day
Apr 13-15	<b>Practice Chart #3 due</b>
Apr 13-15	<b>Sight Reading Test #3</b> <b>Practice Log #3 due</b>
Apr 27	Studio Class #4 -perform Jury repertoire Tanner Harmony for Healing Performance
Thurs Apr 30	Piano Juries