Course Syllabus, MVK 1411, Spring 2014
Studio Piano for Voice Education Majors
Dr. Kevin R. Orr, Coordinator
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Instructor_________________
Section Number_________________
Phone________________
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Office Hours_________________

The aim of this course in private piano study is to augment practical keyboard skills attained from the COMPLETED sequence of Piano Skills courses. Hence, MVK 1411 will center upon activities that enhance the student’s ability to utilize the piano as a teaching tool. Specifically, the course will cover activities in accompanying, harmonization, vocal warm-ups, and sight-reading, in addition to study of scales and arpeggios. Depending upon available time and the ability of the individual student, lessons may also include detailed study of a piano solo piece.

It is the primary goal of this course to provide skills that will most directly serve its students as future professional educators. The course will, therefore, avoid activities expected of piano majors, such as the memorization of various piano solos, or the study and memorization of various scale forms.

The following is to be used as a general guideline for study material.

I. Scales and arpeggios
   a. All major and harmonic minor keys, scales and arpeggios, memorized, 4-octaves

II. Accompanying
   a. Easy-intermediate repertoire generated from a variety from sources
      i. Student’s own studies
      ii. Standard junior high/high school Solo literature
      iii. Standard junior high/high school Choral literature
      iv. Hymns
   b. Performed at a level suitable for teaching
      i. Musical accuracy--first
      ii. Finer points of interpretation--second

III. Sight reading
   a. Easy repertoire generated from a variety of sources
      i. Music Education textbooks
      ii. Elementary/Secondary General Music textbooks
      iii. Hymns
      iv. Multiple voice parts from an open score

IV. Harmonization
   a. Ability to generate simple accompaniments to single melodies
   b. Generated from General Music textbooks

V. Vocal Warm-ups
   a. Exercises for individual and group warm-ups
   b. Solo, Choral, Operatic
   c. Seek suggestions from Voice faculty

Semester juries for MVK 1411 shall focus upon successful demonstration of the above activities. (See exam components below.)

Given the importance of this course your overall music education curriculum, unexcused absences cannot be tolerated. You must give prior notification or reasonable justification for absence from a lesson by email, telephone, or in writing. Both your instructor, and Dr. Orr, have voice mail, email, and snail mailboxes. Failure to utilize these contact sources when absent may, in each instance, result in a lowering of your letter grade for the semester. Your individual instructor maintains discretion in these matters.

Students with a disability that may, in any way, hinder that student’s ability to function academically, must be registered as such with the University of Florida and must inform the instructor of the condition at the beginning of the semester.

Exam Components:
You can expect, at least, all of the following activities to appear on the final jury. Poor performance on any of these activities could result in your failing the semester.

1. Performance of a piano accompaniment
2. Sight-reading a hymn with reasonable proficiency
3. Harmonizing a melody
4. Performance of Vocal warm-ups