

A close-up, black and white photograph of piano keys, showing the repeating pattern of white and black keys. The keys are slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth. A light blue curved line separates this image from the black background below.

Muap 1111 Harmony & Keyboard I

9:00 – 9:50 TTh

Vicki Conway, Instructor

Fall 2023

FAC 1018

vconway@uttyler.edu

Meet the Instructor: Ms. Vicki Conway



Hello! I'm Mrs. Conway, aka 'the dragon' as nicknamed by our recent graduate Bethany Woolman, who is now a medical student at UT Rio Grand Valley. Piano can be an intimidating instrument, but with guided practice it is very user friendly and a valuable support instrument for all your music classes and eventually your career. It does require a time commitment outside of class but my goal is to help you learn to *practice smarter, not longer - for lasting results with the least amount of effort!*

On a personal note, I live in Longview with my husband, 3 dogs and 2 cats. I'm also a mom and grandma with 3 daughters, 4 granddaughters and 1 grandson. My hobby is learning! I did almost half the coursework for a doctorate degree at The University of Oklahoma, but family priorities ultimately prevented me from completing it. So I fully understand the challenges of balancing school, work, family and life. If/when you get overwhelmed and need extra time, extra space or extra help, just ask! I love teaching piano and music to all ages and levels and if I'm ever coming across as a 'dragon', it's ok to let me know. Let's have some fun along the way!

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Develop and improve functional piano skills necessary for a successful career in any field of music.
- Areas of study
 - reading skills
 - accompanying skills
 - music theory applications
- Fluency in each area will be necessary to pass the Piano Proficiency exam as the final exam of Harmony & Keyboard IV.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Perform fundamental technical skills appropriate for the first semester of piano study
- Learn and perform standard repertoire at a minimum Elementary Level 1*
- Sightread at a music fundamentals level
- Realize and perform lead sheets and harmonic progressions appropriate for the first semester of music theory

*Levels based on *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* (Magrath)

Why Piano??

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- Use piano as a visual and aural aid to help learn important theory concepts such as intervals, chords, and harmonic progressions
- Use piano as a supportive tool in playing/counting rhythms
- Use piano as a supportive tool for student's primary instrument in assessing pitch and hearing melodies
- Build fundamental skills to support career options in educational, sacred, and performance settings
 - Hand Independence for conducting skills
 - Student Teaching and Music/Band/Choral Classrooms
 - Praise band keyboard player &/or worship leader
 - Enhance score reading abilities

Course Overview

Progress-Based Modules

The introductory module is the foundation for all remaining modules so start strong, Patriots!

Minimum 30 minutes practice 4 - 5 days per week recommended.

No textbook requirement
All materials provided

Module
Introduction/
Class Drills

Progress based
feedback in
class &/or video
submissions

Individual
Module
Assessments
by due dates

Minimum Course Requirements – Progress Based Learning

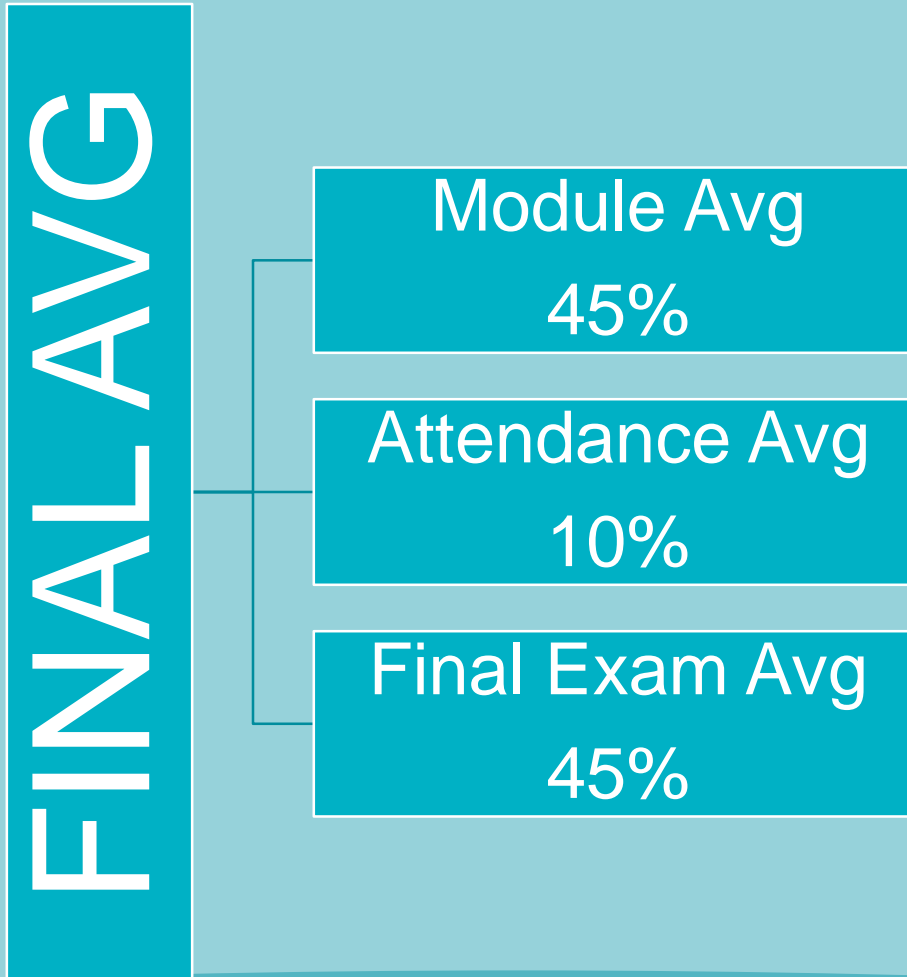
- Set aside a 30 minute block of time 4 - 5 days per week for practice. On campus and between classes is ideal! Short focused practices throughout the week are far more productive than fewer longer ones. Once you leave campus it will be harder to fit practicing in your schedule!
- **Come to every class even if you haven't practiced or feel completely unprepared. Many assignments will be done IN CLASS and certain assignments may be waived! The only time you should miss class is in case of illness. Please do not come if you have a contagious illness.**
- Perform each module requirements by the due date, regardless of your level of preparation. This qualifies you to retake or resubmit assignments for a higher grade.
- NOTE: Additional attempts to pass or improve a module score is allowed without penalty, but you must move on to the next module. Video submissions may be required before scheduling, or in lieu of, an in-person reassessment. The last week of classes will be set aside for final exam review and any reassessments prior to the final exam.

Progress-Based Assessments

Harmony & Keyboard Grading Rubric All Modules and Final Exam

Exceptional Performance (5)	Exceeds expectations (4.5)	Meets expectations (3.5)	Approaches expectations (2.5)	Not yet meeting expectations (1.5)	Missing (0)
Exceptional performance in accuracy, fluency, articulation details, fingerings, and musicality	Performance meets all stated goals and tempo expectations with only occasional errors in note accuracy, articulation, fingering, or rhythm	Performance demonstrates preparation and practice and can be performed within a reasonable amount of time	Performance demonstrates early stages of understanding and skill development suggesting that performance can meet expectations with more practice	Performance shows significant lack of preparation or attention to required details	Not yet submitted or assessed
Submitted/performed by the stated due date	Performance demonstrates confidence and excellent preparation on or after due date	Performance lacks overall continuity and contains multiple errors in notes, articulations, fingerings, or rhythm	Performance is extremely slow or significantly lacking in one or more elements of note accuracy, articulations, fingerings, or rhythm (if required)	Performance shows lack of understanding of assignment directions or goals	Assignment directions not followed so objective not met
		Speed is too fast for stated assignment goals such as articulations, fingerings, or processing time/learning strategy	Speed is too fast causing constant mistakes and complete inattention to assignment details	Skill development is insufficient to complete assignment within a reasonable amount of time	

Weighted Grading Criteria



Course Grading Criteria

A

- 4.0 – 5.0 Points
- 80%-100% Average

B

- 3.0 – 3.9 Points
- 60%-79% Average

C

- 2.0 – 2.9 Points
- 40% - 59% Average

D

- 1.0 – 1.9 Points
- 20% - 49% Average

F

- 0 – 0.9 Points
- 0% - 19% Average

Special Course Notes (Attendance/Late Work)

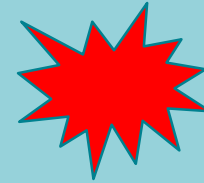
- **Class attendance** is the number one predictor of success and is therefore **REQUIRED** in order to fully understand assignments and grading criteria. Class is where you learn HOW and WHAT to practice so that outside practice is productive. Every class will start with an attendance activity so it is important to be on time to receive credit. Your percentage of class attendance is worth 5% of the final grade. **Notify your instructors by email prior to class if you are ill or have to miss – just as you would an employer!**
- Module assignments may be performed at any time during the module time frame and do not have to be repeated on the due date unless a higher grade is needed or desired.
- Missing assignments will be scored as zero and videos should be submitted as soon as possible after the due date in order to not get behind in the course. **Remember that ANY legitimate attempt at the assignment by the due date allows for later resubmission for a higher grade without penalty!** Late submissions will be lowered by ½ point for each week it is late. Be sure to request extensions in advance if there is extended illness or extenuating circumstances. Tutoring is available free of charge and will be recommended for students falling behind course expectations.
- **Note that grade percentages are based on a 5 point scale so don't be alarmed if your course average is below 70%. Let me know if you have any concerns about your average at any time during the semester.**

Course Calendar (Subject to Change)

- Weeks 1-3: Module 1: Keyboard Geography
 - Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Sunday Sept. 10
- Census Date: September 1
- Weeks 4-6: Module 2: Introduction to Technique
 - Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Sunday Oct. 1
- Weeks 7-10: Module 3: Theory
 - Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Sunday Oct. 29
- Withdrawal Deadline: October 30
- Week 11-13 Module 4: Scales
 - Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Sunday Nov. 19
- Week 14: Final reassessments & review
- Week 15: Final Exam
 - Thursday, December 7
 - 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Additional Course Information

- Instructor Contact information
 - vconway@uttyler.edu (preferred - anytime)
 - 903-566-7293 (office)
 - 903-238-6121 (text) – please avoid nights/weekends
- Office Location: FAC 1221
- Office Hours
 - Posted beside office door after all applied lessons scheduled
 - By Appointment - send an email request with your available times



FREE TUTORING!!!

- Jasper Scharp
 - 307-286-3113
 - jscharp@uttyler.edu