**Course Syllabus – Group Piano**

**MUS 131 (1 credit)**

**Instructor:** Craig Hanson

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**Text:**

Elyse Mach, Contemporary Class Piano, 8th edition. This textbook will be used for the entire 6 term sequence of this course.

**General Description:**

Lessons are 50 minutes in length and are taught bi-weekly in the piano lab in SSH120, using a state-of the art educational system by Roland. They are designed to build technical proficiency and increase repertoire while strengthening knowledge of harmony, rhythm, form, sight-reading and music theory.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Read and play piano repertoire appropriate for a beginning pianist.

2. Demonstrate and play with correct posture.

3. Play with appropriate hand position and fingering technique for a beginning pianist.

4. Apply basic music theory to performance appropriate for a beginning pianist.

5. Perform with appropriate level of music expression for a beginning pianist.

**Lesson Expectations:**

Students are expected to be punctual and to bring the textbook to each class. If the student becomes ill, has a family emergency, or needs to participate in an LBCC-sponsored event, they are allowed to miss class, however, only two such will be allowed per term.

Students should work toward completion of assignments, mastery of the material and to show visible progress each week. Students are expected to purchase the textbook in a timely manner from the LBCC bookstore, a local bookstore, or online.

**Course Requirements:**

• Attend all lessons.

• Practice a minimum of 60 minutes per day. A written practice journal may be helpful but is not required.

• Complete short and long term applied assignments as assigned by the instructor.

• Attend special events such as free concerts assigned by the instructor.

• Complete listening and/or written assignments as assigned.

**Evaluation/Grading:**

• The lesson grade average is 70% of the total grade. Your lowest lesson grade will be dropped when calculating your final grade. Weekly grades will be determined as follows:

A: made significant progress in all assignments

B: made some progress in all assignments

C: made negligible progress in most assignments

D: made no progress in assignments

• A missed lesson will result in a “0” unless it has been excused in advance. One “0” will be dropped.

• The final will count for 30% of the grade.

**Specific Competencies:**

• The student should display the ability to perform standard piano literature appropriate to his or her level in various musical styles and from various periods of history.

• The student should demonstrate progressive mastery of the following areas:

Correct posture, finger, hand, arm position and movement

The use of pedals

Coordination of the two hands in both contrapuntal and homophonic textures

Articulation and phrasing

Interpretation of written scores with regard to pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempos, and expression marks

Rhythmical patterns of increasing difficulty.

Musical terminology

Theory of harmony

• The student should display the ability to execute major and minor scales, arpeggios, and various etudes.

• The student should develop the ability to sight-read.

• The student should demonstrate an understanding of the elements of music as they relate to musical expression.

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

**Basic Needs Statement:** Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Single Stop Office for support (SinglestopatLBCC@linnbenton.edu , 541-917- 4877, or visit us on the web [www.linnbenton.edu](http://www.linnbenton.edu/) under Student Support for Current Students). Our office can help students get connected to resources to help. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources that they may possess.