**Course Syllabus – Individual Lessons: Piano**

**MP171 (1 or 2 credit)**

**Instructor:** Craig Hanson

541-908-4477

hansonc@linnbenton.edu

**Texts:**

As assigned by instructor

**General Description:**

Lessons are 30 minutes (one credit) or one hour (two credits) in length and are taught weekly at a time to be arranged between student and instructor. There will be an optional juried exam at the end of the term for non-music majors, which will be for the benefit of performance experience as well as for obtaining additional feedback. If the student chooses not to take the jury, then the final lesson will serve as a replacement. For music majors, the juries are required and will account for 30% of the final grade. Private lessons are catered to the individual’s level and goals. They are designed to build technical proficiency and increase repertoire while strengthening knowledge of harmony, rhythm, form 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 a spiral notebook or equivalent along with a pencil with which to write specific assignments and points of study. Lessons will be rescheduled if the instructor needs to miss a lesson, if the student becomes ill, has a family emergency, or needs to participate in an LBCC-sponsored event. Only two such rescheduling of lessons will be allowed per term. Failure to notify the instructor at least three hours prior to the beginning of class will result in a no show and a make up lesson will not be given.

The instructor will select and assign repertoire and various technical exercises that are appropriate to the level and interest of each student. Students should work toward completion of both short- and long-term assignments and to show visible progress each week.

Students are expected to purchase music in a timely manner. A limited number of books may be available at the LBCC bookstore. Others should be purchased by the student from a local bookstore, from the instructor directly, or online. Music Library or borrowed copies may be used for study purposes only, but printed music is recommended. Photocopies and/or library copies may not be used for performances.

**Course Requirements:**

• Attend all lessons.

• Practice a minimum of 30 minutes per day for the one-credit class and one hour per day for the two-credit class. 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 90% of the total grade for non-majors and 70% for music majors. Your lowest lesson grade will be dropped when calculating your final grade. Weekly grades will be determined as follows:

o A: made significant progress in all assignments

o B: made some progress in all assignments

o C: made negligible progress in most assignments

o 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 lesson or juried exam will count 10% of the final grade for non-majors and 30% for majors.

**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:

o Correct posture, finger, hand, arm position and movement

o The use of pedals

o Coordination of the two hands in both contrapuntal and homophonic textures

o Articulation and phrasing

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

o Rhythmical patterns of increasing difficulty.

o Musical terminology

o 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.