Course Syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Michael Gerdes
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Final Date: May 12

COURSE SUMMARY

A. Technique – finger builders: five finger exercises utilizing five finger tones of all major and minor scales.
B. Keyboard theory – the grand staff keyboard orientation, major scales
C. Chords – Major and minor triads in all positions, blocked, broken, and arpeggiated, Introduction of diminished and augmented triads, and major, dominant, and minor seventh chords.
D. Chord Progressions
   1. I-V7-I, all major and minor keys, all inversions, resolving dominants with proper voice leading
   2. I-IV-V7-I in all major keys, from I in root position
   3. Dorian i-VII-I in various keys
   4. Harmonization of melodies with primary chords in major and minor keys using various accompaniment patterns
E. Improvisation using all scales, chords, and progressions learned:
   1. Parallel and contrasting question and answer improvisation in pentatonic, major, minor, and dorian, with and without accompaniment
   2. Pentatonic and bitonal improvisation
   3. Aleatoric improvisation
   4. 12 bar blues using various bass patterns
F. Repertoire – using different keys, meters, and rhythmic and melodic patterns and various styles, classical, folk, jazz, and contemporary
G. Sight reading and transpositions, melodies, eight measures or more, harmonized with primary chords and transposed to various keys, open score chorale reading, single line alto and tenor clef reading

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who complete the course will:

Have an increased level of musical literacy and creativity
Develop keyboard facility in sight-reading, transposition, improvisation, keyboard harmony, performance, and technique
Use digital technology to facilitate learning and develop practice
Develop practical knowledge and skills for use in classroom and private studio instruction and for personal musical growth and enjoyment

PREREQUISITE
Music 110A with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better or passing placement examination.

San Diego State University

Music 110B Course Syllabus
GRADING
Final grades will be based on the following scale:

25% - Daily assignments, participation*, and quizzes. Approx. 10 quiz grades will be averaged.
75% - Three exams given during the semester, including the final. There will be no incompletes or make-up exams except in cases of emergency or severe illness. Documentation must be provided. A failing grade in two or more of the exams will result in failure of the course. The final will be given at the scheduled time during finals week.

*I take class participation grades seriously. Keeping quiet in class deprives your colleagues of your perspectives and stifles dialogue. Only those who consistently contribute to class will receive full marks.

COURSE POLICIES
• Attendance is taken in the first five minutes of class. If a student arrives to class after attendance has been taken, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor of their presence after class. Students arriving after attendance has been taken will be counted as tardy. Each unexcused tardy is counted as one half of an unexcused absence.
• Come to class on time and prepared. Bring your textbook and headphones every day.
• All electronic devices, including MP3 players, cellular telephones, and pagers, must be turned off or in silent mode during class.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM
I welcome and encourage you to discuss course materials and concepts with your colleagues. However, all evaluated work for this course (including homework, quizzes, and exams) is expected to be the sole production of each individual student, unless otherwise directed by me. If after due consideration, I am convinced that cheating or deliberate plagiarism has occurred on some homework, quiz, or exam, then the offending student will receive zero credit. Further, the student’s action will be referred to the proper administrator for consideration.

SDSU POLICY STATEMENTS
Please familiarize yourself with SDSU’s Student Conduct Policies at the university website: http://www.timdunn.biz/sdsu/university-policies/availability-of-information.html

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS and MATERIALS
2. Headset w/ quarter inch adaptor