

**Harmony & Keyboard I**  
**Muap 1111.001**  
**Fall 2021**

Instructor: Vicki Conway

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Office Hours: Posted by office door after all applied lessons scheduled and/or by appointment.  
Request an appointment by sending an email with your available times.

**Course Overview**

Beginning piano study for music majors, incorporating keyboard harmony assignments on level with Musi 1311, Music Theory I.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Course content is based on developing and improving functional piano skills necessary for a successful career in any field of music. Areas of study will include technical skills, reading skills, and music theory applications. Fluency in each area will be necessary to pass the piano proficiency exam as the final exam of Harmony & Keyboard IV. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to do the following. (Levels are based on *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* (Magrath).

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

**Graded Course Requirements Information (Assignments and Weight Point Values)**

Assignment 1 & 2	33%	Short, weekly assignments with focused goals
Test 1 & 2	33%	Well-prepared and polished performances
Final Exam	34%	Assessment of skills learned during the semester

**Required Materials**

Sightreading Factory account

Video set-up to record assignments – see Special Course Notes

**Special Course Notes**

Attendance and meeting weekly grading deadlines is the number one predictor of success in this course. Playing the piano (or any instrument) is not a spectator sport or last-minute cramming subject and the responsibility to learn is yours and yours alone. The short weekly assignments, however, are designed to make that process as easy and efficient as possible. Set aside the necessary time in your schedule for daily practice and come to class for helpful and time-saving instructions. As long as all current assignments are completed, you may work ahead at your own pace.

Any assignments completed late will receive a maximum grade of 75 and any assignments not completed by the posted deadline will remain a grade of zero. At midterm and the end of the semester, one lowest grade from each Assignment category will automatically be dropped.

Tests 1 & 2 will be a culmination of the skills and selections learned in the previous assignments. No grades are dropped from this category. Your final will be an in-class, cumulative, comprehensive skills test.

Tutoring is available free of charge for anyone in the class, and faculty office hours are designed for one-on-one consultations with the instructor. Reach out for help as soon as you are struggling and most importantly keep coming to class even if you do not feel prepared.

Video submissions of assignments are acceptable when assignments can't be performed in class or to improve a grade. Position the camera high enough so that each hand is clearly visible showing specific fingers on specific keys. A small tripod or music stand is suggested for use with a cell phone. You may also record in the piano lab using the boom stand. Be sure to use one of the free-standing pianos with external speakers.

**Grading Scale:**

**A: 90-100      B: 80-89      C: 70-79      D: 60-69      F: Below 60**

**Late Work and Make-Up Exams**

Any weekly assignments missed should be made up as soon as possible since all assignments are sequential. Excused absence assignments must be made up within a week for full credit. The maximum grade is 75 for delayed submissions and unexcused absences. Consult the instructor in case of extended illness or possible quarantine. Test 1 & 2 make-up exams are only given for excused absences. It is the responsibility of the student to reschedule the exam in a timely manner.

In case of illness, the instructor must receive an email prior to the start of class and/or you must present a doctor's notice in order to avoid the late penalty for missed assignments. Always keep the lines of communication open and let your instructors know if there are any difficult or extenuating circumstances going on in your life. Both physical illness and mental/emotional challenges can make learning difficult and easily cause you to fall behind. Struggles with time management and college expectations are also very common, especially if you have additional work obligations. Remember that we are here to help you through the learning process and your success is our passion.

**Course Calendar and Due Dates**

Assignment 1	Weekly grades from 9/7 – 9/30
Test 1	10/5 & 10/7
Assignment 2	Weekly grades from 10/12-11/18
Test 2	11/30 & 12/2
Final Exam	Thursday, 12/9      8:00 – 10:00 a.m.