Music Theory / Piano I

Curriculum Guide

Scranton School District

Scranton, PA

Course Name: Music Theory/ Piano 1	Grade: 9-12
Prerequisites: This a course for students with little to no music knowledge to establish a foundation of music theory and basic piano skills.	
Course Description: This course is designed to teach the concepts and fundamentals necessary to understand music theory through playing the piano. As such, performing on the piano is the secondary goal of this class, while the basics of music theory, such as notation, rhythm, melody and harmony are what we are primarily focused on. Students will develop the self-discipline needed for good practice habits as they prepare for class performances.	

Summary By Quarter

Quarter 1 Overview		
Topic	**Standards / Assessment Anchors**	**Pacing Guide**
Elements of the Keyboard	9.1.12.h	2 Class periods
Notes on the treble, bass, and grand staff	9.1.12.c	One week
Performing treble, bass, and grand staff	9.1.12.c 9.1.12.g	**Treble - one week** **Bass - one week** **Grand staff - one week** **Total three weeks**

Basic Rhythms	9.1.12.c	2 Weeks

Quarter 2 Overview		
Topic	**Standards / Assessment Anchors (N/A)**	**Pacing Guide**
Repeat Signs and first and second endings	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C	One week
Performing basic chords, ties, slurs, and repeat signs	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	Two weeks
Complex rhythms: eighth notes, eighth rests, dotted quarter notes	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.H	Three class periods
Dynamic markings, tempo markings, articulation	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.,9.1.12.H	Three class periods
Navigating Coda	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,	One week
Damper Pedal	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.G,9.1.12.H	One week

Quarter 3 Overview		
Topic	**Standards / Assessment Anchors**	**Pacing Guide**
Accidentals: sharps, flats, naturals. Whole steps and half steps	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E	Three class periods
Learning new hand placements	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	One week
Building Tetrachords and Major Scales	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Two weeks
Setting hands in a new position to begin playing the C Major scales.	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	One week
Chromatic Scale	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Three class periods

Major Intervals	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	One week
Circle of Fifths	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Two weeks

Quarter 4 Overview		
Topic	**Standards / Assessment Anchors**	**Pacing Guide**
Intervals: Perfect, Major, Minor, Augmented, and Diminished	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Three weeks
Solfege and transposition	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Two weeks
Complex rhythms: Sixteenth notes, sixteenth rests, dotted either notes Common time and Cut time (alla breve)	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E,	Three days
Eighth note triplets, incomplete measures (pick-up note)	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Two weeks
Triads (primary and major) Scale Degree Names The V7 (Dominant 7th) Chord	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	Three weeks

Detailed Breakdown By Topic

Topic	Standards / Assessment Anchors	Essential Knowledge & Skills	Vocabulary	Resources & Activities	Assessments	Suggested Time
Elements of the keyboard	9.1.12.h	**Location of black keys in groups of 3 and 2, location or middle C, placing hands on keyboard**	**Middle C, note names, keys, black keys and white keys,**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pgs 2&3) or similar resource, piano,	**Individual performance assessment**	**Two class periods**
Notes on the treble, bass, and grand staff	9.1.12.c	**Students will be able to identify notes on the treble, bass, and grand staff.**	**Clef, treble, bass, staff, grand staff, barline, bracket, line, space ledger lines, note names, notes**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (Unit 1) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**One week**
Performing treble, bass, and grand staff	9.1.12.c 9.1.12.g	**Students will be able to play notes on the treble, bass, and grand staff.**	**Clef, treble, bass, staff, grand staff, barline, bracket, line, space ledger lines, note names, notes**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pgs 2-12) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Individual performance assessment**	**Treble - one week Bass - one week Grand staff - one week Total three weeks**
Basic Rhythms	9.1.12.c	**Students will be able to identify basic rhythms such as: quarter note, quarter rest, half note, half rest, dotted half note, whole note, whole rest. They will also be able to identify ties and slurs.**	**Clef, treble, bass, staff, grand staff, barline, bracket, line, space ledger lines, note names, notes, quarter note, quarter rest, half note, half rest, dotted half notes,**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (Units 2 and 3) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Two weeks**

			whole note, whole rest, ties and slurs, time signature (4/4, ¾, 2/4)			
Repeat Signs and 1st and 2nd endings	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C	**Students will be able to identify and navigate repeat signs and first and second endings.**	**Repeat, first and second ending, repeat sign**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 14) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**One week**
Performing: basic chords, ties, slurs, and repeat signs.	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	**Students will be able to play basic chords on the piano as well as ties, slurs, and repeat signs**	**Chords, tie, slur, repeat,**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pgs 13-17) or similar resource, piano	**Individual performance assessment**	**Two weeks**
Complex rhythms: eighth notes, eighth rests, dotted quarter note	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.H	**Students will be able to identify complex rhythms using eighth notes, eighth rests, and dotted quarter notes.**	**Eighth note, eighth rest, dotted quarter note, half, one and a half, subdivision,**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 15-17) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three class periods**
Dynamic markings, tempo markings, articulation	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.,9.1.12.H	**Students will be able to identify and define Identifying and defining dynamic signs (piano, forte, mezzo forte, pianissimo, fortissimo, crescendo, diminuendo), tempo marks (largo, adagio, andante, moderato, allegro, vivace, ritardando, accelerando), articulation (staccato, accent, sforzando,**	**Dynamics, dynamic signs or markings, forte, mezzo forte, pianissimo, fortissimo, crescendo, decrescendo, diminuendo, tempo, largo, adagio, andante, moderato, allegro, vivace, accelerando,**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lessons 18-20) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three class periods**

		tenuto, fermata).	**ritardando, articulation, staccato, accent, sforzando, tenuto, fermata, hold, value, note value, loud, quiet**			
Navigating Coda	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,	**Identify, define and navigate Coda.**	**Da Capo (D.C), Dal Segno (D.S), Fine, and Coda.**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 21) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**One week**
Damper pedal	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.G,9.1.12.H	**Identify pedals and learn to use the damper pedal**	**Pedal, damper pedal, sustain**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pgs 20-22) or similar resource, piano	**Individual performance assessment**	**One week**
sharps, flats, naturals, whole steps and half steps	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E	**Finding sharps and flats on the piano keyboard. Learning the function of accidentals within a measure. Learning whole steps, half steps, and enharmonic notes. Identifying placement on the keyboard, and aural identification**	**Sharps, flats, naturals, accidentals, black keys, measure, whole steps, half steps, enharmonics,**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 34-37) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three class periods**
Learning new hand placements	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	**Students will be able to learn finger crossing, and using black keys on the piano.**	**Finger cross, fingerings, hand position, over and under**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pgs 23-25) or similar resource, piano	**Individual performance assessment**	**One week**
Building Tetrachords and Major Scales.	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Identifying whole steps and half steps, and organizing them to**	**Tetrachord, Major scale, whole step, half step, key**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 43-49) or similar	**Quiz or test**	**Two weeks**

		create tetrachords and Major scales. Identify key signatures, sharp and flat keys. Understand the function of key signatures.	**signature, sharp, flat, accidentals**	resource, white board, piano		
Setting hands in a new position to begin playing the C Major scales.	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C,9.1.12.G, 9.1.12.H	**Students will learn finger patterns for the C Major scales and learn the key of C Major.**	**Hand position, C Major Scale, key, key signature**	"The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano: Course 1" (pg 24 or similar resource, piano	**Individual performance assessment**	**One week**
Chromatic Scale	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Students will learn the ascending and descending chromatic scale.**	**Hand position, chromatic, half steps**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 32) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three class periods**
Major Intervals	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Students will learn to identify different intervals such as: unisons, 2nds, 3rds, 4th, 5th 6th 7th, and octave.**	**Interval, half steps, whole steps, flats, sharps, 2nd interval, 3rd interval, perfect 4th, perfect 5th, 6th interval, 7th interval, octave, unison**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 33) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**One week**
Circle of Fifths	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Using knowledge of tetrachords and Major scales, learn to build the Circle of Fifths The Circle of Fifths is a foundation**	**Tetrachord, major scale, circle of fifths, key signature**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 34) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Two weeks**

		for the next level of music theory.				
Perfect, Major, Minor, Augmented, and Diminished Intervals	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Building on previously learned knowledge of scales, students will learn to build and identify Perfect, Major, minor, Augmented, and diminished intervals.**	**Major scale, perfect interval (4th and 5th), minor interval (2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th), augmented interval (2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th), diminished interval (2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th), tritones, octave**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lessons 35, 36, and 37) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three weeks**
Solfege and transposition	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Students will learn to identify scale degrees using solfege syllables. Using moveable DO, students will learn to transpose melodies.**	**Scale degrees, Solfege (do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti), transposition, moveable do**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (lesson 38) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Two weeks**
Sixteenth notes, sixteenth rests, dotted eighth notes, common time and cut time (alla breve)	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E,	**Students will learn to identify and perform sixteenth notes and sixteenth rests. They will also learn to perform and identify dotted eighth notes.**	**Rhythm, Sixteenth notes, sixteenth rest, flags/beams, dotted eighth notes**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (unit 10) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three days**
Eighth note triplets, incomplete	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**New time signatures (meters) will be introduced. Common**	**Common time(c), cut time (alla breve), time**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (unit 11) or similar resource, "The Leila Fletcher Adult Piano:	**Quiz or test**	**Two weeks**

measures (pick-up notes)		**Time and Cut time will be further explored, as well as the introduction of ⅜ and 6/8 eighth notes and eighth note triplets will also be introduced. Pick up notes and incomplete measures will also be introduced and performed**	**signature, ⅜ time signature, 6/8 time signature, strong beat, eighth note triplet, incomplete measures, pick-up notes, syncopation**	Course 1" (pgs 30-33) or similar resource, white board, piano		
Triads, Primary and Major Triads, Scale Degree Names, The V7 (Dominant 7th) Chord	9.1.12.B, 9.1.12.C, 9.1.12.E, 9.3.12.D	**Students will learn to build triads. They will learn Primary and Major triads, identify scale degree names, and the V7 (Dominant 7th) chords.**	**Triad, chord, root, 3rd, 5th, root position, primary chords, roman numerals (I, IV, V), major triads, dominant 7 chord (V7), Major 7th, tonic, supertonic, mediant, subdominant, dominant, submediant, leading tone**	Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory (unit 12) or similar resource, white board, piano	**Quiz or test**	**Three weeks**

Fundamental Music Vocabulary Music Theory/Piano 1 (Sequential and Scaffolding)

Middle C	Half Rest	Pianissimo (pp)	Fermata	Half Steps	Whole Steps
Note names	Dotted Half Notes	Fortissimo (ff)	Hold	Enharmonics	2nd Interval
Keys	Whole Note	Crescendo (Cresc.)	Value	Finger Cross	3rd Interval
Black keys	Whole Rest	Decrescendo (Decresc.)	Note Value	Fingerings	Perfect 4th
White keys	Ties	Diminuendo (dim)	Loud	Hand Position	Perfect 5th
Clef	Slurs	Tempo	Quiet	Over	6th Interval
Treble	Repeat	Largo	Coda	Under	7th Interval
Bass	First Ending	Adagio	Da Capo (D.C.)	Tetrachord	Octave
Staff	Second Ending	Andante	Dal Segno (D.S)	Major Scale	Unison
Grand Staff	Repeat sign	Moderato	Fine	Whole Step	Tetrachord
Barline	Chords	Allegro	Pedal	Half Step	Major Scale
Bracket	Eighth Note	Vivace	Damper Pedal	Key Signature	Circle of Fifths
Lines	Eighth Rest	Accelerando (accel.)	Sustain	Hand Position	Minor Intervals
Space	Subdivision	Ritardando (rit.)	Sharps	C Major Scale	Minor 2nds, 3rd
Ledger Lines	Dynamics	Articulation	Flats	Key	Minor 6th, 7th
Notes	Dynamic signs	Staccato	Naturals	Key Signature	Diminished Interval
Quarter Notes	Dynamic markings	Accent	Accidentals	Chromatic	Diminished 2nd, 3rd
Quarter Rests	Forte (f)	Sforzando (sfz)	Measure	Interval	Diminished 6th, 7th
Half Note	Mezzo Forte (mf)	Tenuto	Whole Steps	Half Step	Tritone

Scale Degrees

Solfege

Do,Re, Mi, Fa

Sol, La, Ti Do

Transposition

Moveable Do

Rhythm

Sixteenth Notes

Sixteenth Rests

Flags

Beams

Dotted Eighth Notes

Common time

Cut Time

Alla Breve

Time Signature

3/8 Time

6/8 Time

Strong Beat

Eighth Note

Triplet

Incomplete Measures

Pick up notes

Syncopation

Triad

Chord

Root

3rd

5th

Root Position

Primary Chords

Roman Numerals (I, IV, V)

Major Triads

Dominant 7th Chord

V7

Major 7th