KEYBOARD ENSEMBLE SYLLABUS

Semester & Year: **Fall 2024, 14-week session**

Course number – Section – Title: MUSI 1135: Keyboard Ensemble

Meets (day, time, room): MW 1:05 – 2:50 p.m., HLC2 1552, 1421
Course Credits & Contact Hours: 1 credit and 4 contact hours per week

Instructor:
Phone:
Email:
Office hours:

Catalog Description & Prerequisites

Provides training in the specific techniques necessary for ensemble performance. Emphasizes both ensemble and solo playing. Repertoire varies according to emphasis. Examples of major instrumental ensembles may include but are not limited to concert band, marching band, collaborative piano, jazz band, and orchestra. Examples of small instrumental ensembles may include but are not limited to wind, string, percussion, piano, and mixed ensembles in various styles. Open to any student who can qualify by audition.

Course Purposes & Instructional Methodology

This course is in a lecture/lab format in the Group Piano Lab. Students will be expected to spend at least 30 minutes to 1 hour practicing the piano for each class meeting. Most of this will be outside of class time in a practice room on campus, or an electronic keyboard at home. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:

- Learn basic piano accompanying and ensemble technique
- Improve sight reading and transposition skills

Required Textbooks & Other Useful Materials

- Instructor handouts only

Program Learning Outcomes

The Student Learning Outcomes are associated with the following Program Learning Outcomes:

- Develop piano skill through coaching, pedagogy, diction, and instruction.
- Develop performance skill through exercises in improvisation, repertoire and performance practice.
- Develop the habits necessary to succeed as a professional performer.
- Prepare participants for the conditions and demands they will face as professional performers.
- Create opportunities to study with national and international artists, designers, and leaders within the music industry.
- Establish and maintain collaborations with professional arts institutions, other academic institutions and music schools.
- Develop a broad base of donor and patron support for student scholarships, awards, guest artist residencies and special programming.
- Be involved in ACC outreach programs in Austin and surrounding neighborhoods.

General Education Competencies
The General Education Competencies utilized in this course are as follows:

- *Communication Skills*. Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, visual, and sung communication that is adapted to purpose, structure, audience, and medium. They will do this through in-class exercises, reading, written assignments, in-class lectures and presentations, and project performances.
- *Critical Thinking*. Students will gather, analyze, synthesize, evaluate and apply information for the purposes of innovation, inquiry, and creative thinking and performance. They will do this through in-class exercises, reading, written assignments, in-class lectures and presentations, and project performances.
- *Personal Responsibility*. Students will identify and apply ethical principles and practices to decision-making by connecting choices, actions and consequences. They will do this through in-class exercises, reading, written assignments, in-class lectures and presentations, and project performances.
- *Teamwork*. Students will consider different points of view while working collaboratively and effectively in pursuit of a shared purpose or goal. They will do this through in-class exercises, reading, written assignments, in-class lectures and presentations, and project performances.

Grading. Students will be graded on small weekly performing assignments, usually 1-2 per week. There will also be one public performance each semester in the Recital Hall. Fall 2024 concert is on Sunday, November 17th at 2:00 PM. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Weekly playing assginments (approx. 20-25 equally weighted assignments)	80%
Keyboard Ensemble Concert	20%

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	70-89%
C	60-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Attendance. Regular and punctual class and laboratory attendance is expected of all students. If attendance or compliance with other course policies is unsatisfactory, the instructor may withdraw students from the class. In the event the college or campus closes due to unforeseen circumstances (for example, severe weather or other emergency), the student is responsible for communicating with their professor during the closure and completing any assignments or other activities designated by their professor as a result of class sessions being missed.

Tardy. Three tardies equal one absence. Being more than ten minutes late to class will result in an absence. Absence points will be taken away from your Performance Readiness Grade.

Communication. Emails and texts are answered daily during working hours, meaning 9am-5pm. If your communication comes in after this time you will receive a response the next day. Student are expected to give their professor the courtesy and respond to all communication.

Dropping/Withdrawing. It is the student's responsibility to initiate all withdrawals in this course. The instructor may withdraw students for excessive absences (4) but makes no commitment to do this for the student. You may withdraw, or drop from a 16-week course with a

grade of W any time on or before the end of the 12th week in the fall or spring 16-week session. Shorter semesters have prorated drop dates. If you drop a course before its census date, or official reporting date, the course is deleted from your enrollment, does not earn any grade, and does not appear on your transcript. If you drop a course after the census date, a grade will be included on your transcript. Reporting dates vary, so you are strongly encouraged to consult your instructor, the course syllabus or the Austin Community College website for the drop and withdrawal dates for your course. *If your first college enrollment occurred in the fall 2001 or later, you may not drop more than 6 courses during your cumulative enrollment at any Texas public college or university.*
For more information on the withdrawal process you can check this page: https://catalog.austincc.edu/support-services-and-student-progress/student-progress/droppingwithdrawing-from-courses/

Missed Exams & Late Work. Deadlines in this course are firm. I give you a course calendar at the beginning of the term that includes all deadlines for the course. Should a deadline change, I will inform you in writing and in person. Here are some rules of thumb to go by:

- *I forgot to complete an assignment. Can I make it up?* Written assignments are accepted up to 48 hours late, with a grade penalty. Projects, Group Projects and Presentations will not be accepted late. Please be very aware of your partners in group projects.
- *I missed an activity that we completed during class. Can I make it up?* No, there is no way to make up an in-class activity.
- *I missed a quiz, can I make it up?* No, I will not accept late quizzes or tests.
- *Memorization deadlines. Can I make them up?* No. If you are not memorized at the time of a memorization deadline your grade will automatically be lowered by one letter grade.

Incomplete Grade. If a student is unable to complete the course at the end of the semester due to an emergency or other unanticipated circumstance, I will consider awarding an incomplete grade for the semester. A new completion date will be given to the student, but it must be before the beginning of the next semester. When the student completes the required work by the deadline, I will submit a form to change the student's grade from an incomplete to the earned grade. If an incomplete is not resolved by the deadline, the grade will automatically convert to an F.

Health & Safety Protocols. Operational areas of ACC campuses and centers are fully open and accessible through all public entrances. While health & safety protocols are no longer mandatory, the college encourages its staff, faculty, and students to be mindful of the well-being of all individuals on campus. If you feel, sick, feverish, or unwell, DO NOT come to campus.
Some important things to remember for singing:

- Singing can be very dangerous for the emission of extra particles. If you have not done so, ACC encourages all students, faculty, and staff to get vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccines are now widely available through-out the community. Visit www.vaccines.gov/ to find a vaccine location near you.
- If you are experience COVID-19-related symptoms, please get a test as soon as possible before returning to an ACC facility. Testing is now widely available.
- Because of the everchanging situation, please go to ACC's Covid website at https://www.austincc.edu/coronavirus?ref=audiencemenu for the latest updates and guidance.

Senate Bill 212 and Title IX Reporting Requirements. Under Senate Bill (SB 212), the faculty and all College employees are required to report any information concerning incidents of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking committed by or against an ACC

student or employee. Federal Title IX law and College policy also require reporting incidents of sex- and gender-based discrimination and sexual misconduct. This means faculty and non-clinical counseling staff cannot keep confidential information about any such incidents that you share with them.
If you would like to talk with someone confidentially, please contact the District Clinical Counseling Team who can connect you with a clinical counselor on any ACC campus: (512) 223-2616, or to schedule online: www.austincc.edu/student/counseling.
While students are not required to report, they are encouraged to contact the Compliance Office for resources and options: Charlene Buckley, District Title IX Officer, (512) 223-7964, compliance@austinc.edu.

Classroom policy. Students are allowed to use cell phones during class to record lessons only. No food, gum, candy, or beverage (except water) is allowed in the classroom. Students are required to remain in the room for the duration of the class meeting unless there is an emergency.

Collaborative Pianist. A pianist will be provided for several days marked "coaching" in this course, as well as for dress rehearsals, and performances. If you'd like extra time with the pianist you may do so by contacting her at your own expense.