



Course Syllabus: Piano

Fain College of Fine Arts

AMUS 1221 Section 101

Spring 2026 Fain C117G

January 20 – May 15

Contact Information

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Course Description

Lessons are designed to augment your acquisition and development of keyboard skills as well as further your understanding and presentation of literature for the piano and its precursors. Your progress depends on the attitude and awareness you give to the ideas presented in the lesson during your outside practice time. The amount of work you feel is being asked of you for these lessons reflects the amount of diligence and discipline to which you are willing to submit.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

You are expected to procure all music (imslp.org or purchase) studied for the semester.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Core Values

One of Midwestern State University's stated core values is: "People-Centered: Engage others with respect, empathy, and joy". The professor considers the classroom a safe place where students are treated with respect as human beings, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Moreover, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided the students can agree to disagree. The professor's expectation is that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work, not the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading

Grades will be based on the following criteria:

- grades on semester jury
- improvement within the semester
- completion of assigned literature
- willingness to perform in piano class and on recitals
- attendance (as discussed above)

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 23, 2026

Deadline to file for graduation: February 16, 2026

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 29, 2026

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Pertinent information such as the class syllabus will be available through the MSU D2L system. Students are expected to understand how to navigate D2L.

You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Each student will receive one private lesson per week. You will be allowed one absence of private session without any reason necessary. Please let me know in advance (if possible) that you will not be attending your lesson. More than one unexcused absence will factor negatively into the semester grade. Absence at more than three lessons may result in your being dropped from the class.

I make up only the lessons I miss. If you know you cannot attend a lesson, please work out a trade with another student as possible.

Instructor Class Policies

Students are required to participate in all class activities and practice assigned material in preparation for each class. Practicing daily outside of class is recommended.

Students are to conduct themselves in a professional manner so that all students may learn without distraction and disruption.

College students are adults and are expected to behave accordingly. Classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct class or the ability of the other students to benefit from instruction will result in the instructor's removing the disruptive student(s) from class, either temporarily or permanently (instructor drop). Any disruptive student asked to leave class will receive an absence.

Weather Statement

This course follows MSU Guidelines for inclement weather. Classes will not meet if campus is closed during the time of class. The class will NOT meet online if campus is closed. If assessment deadlines coincide with university closure, an extension will be stated the next class meeting.

Classroom Cleaning Protocols

Students using the Piano Lab are encouraged to clean their piano and space before and after class. Time is allotted in the 50 minutes to clean your area. Instructions will be given how to clean pianos appropriately.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Privacy Statement

Federal privacy law prohibits the instructor from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, in almost all cases the professor will not discuss students' academic progress or other matters with their parents. Please do not have them call. Regardless of these important legal considerations, the professors' general policy is to communicate with the students, not their parents, even when a student has signed a consent form.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees, and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. However, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans, and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make an application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License-to-carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by the MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

All student assignments are individualized based on students need and required proficiencies.

Appendix: Piano Graded Repertoire List

This list is not comprehensive, nor are you restricted to the works here. The intent of this list is to begin to inform students of works available, based approximately on skill. This list will expand and evolve, as we all discover various works. Students are encouraged to find recordings of these works and explore [IMSLP.org](https://www.imslp.org) for free scores.

Freshman

- J.S. Bach, French Suite, BWV 812 to 817
- D. Scarlatti, Sonata (any)
- Haydn, Sonata (any)
- Mozart, Sonata (any)
- Mozart, Variations (any)
- Beethoven, Sonata, Opp. 2 to 26
- Mendelssohn, Rondo Capriccioso, Op. 14
- Chopin, Nocturnes (any)
- Chopin, Polonaise (any)
- Schumann, Papillons, Op. 2
- Liszt, Consolations
- Brahms, Rhapsodien, Op. 79
- Debussy, Children's Corner

Sophomore

- J.S. Bach, Prelude and Fugue from The Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846 to 893
- D. Scarlatti, Sonata (any)
- Haydn, Sonata (any)
- Mozart, Sonata (any)
- Mozart, Concerto (any)
- Beethoven, Sonata, Opp. 27 to 90
- Beethoven, Variations (any)
- Schubert, Sonata (any, except for the last three)
- Mendelssohn, Variations Sérieuses, Op. 54
- Chopin, Études, Op. 10 and Op. 25
- Chopin, Ballade (any)
- Chopin, Scherzo (any)
- Schumann, Fantasiestücke, Op. 12
- Liszt, 3 Concert Etudes and 2 Concert Etudes
- Liszt, Hungarian Rhapsody (any)
- Tchaikovsky, The Seasons, Op. 37a
- Debussy, Pour le piano
- Ravel, Pavane pour une infante défunte
- Bartók, Allegro barbaro
- Prokofiev, Four Pieces, Op. 4
- Ginastera, Danzas argentinas, Op. 2

Junior

- J.S. Bach, English Suite, BWV 806 to 811
- J.S. Bach, Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue, BWV 903
- J.S. Bach, Fantasy and Fugue, BWV 904
- Beethoven, Sonata, Opp. 27 to 90
- Beethoven, Concerto, Op. 15, Op. 19, and Op. 37
- Schubert, Wanderer Fantasy, Op. 15
- Chopin, Études, Op. 10 and Op. 25
- Chopin, Preludes, Op. 28
- Chopin, Barcarolle, Op. 60
- Schumann, Carnaval, Op. 9
- Liszt, Grande Études de Paganini
- Liszt, Spanish Rhapsody
- Liszt, Ballade No. 2
- Brahms, Sonata, Opp. 1, 2, and 5
- Brahms, Variations on a theme by Handel, Op. 24
- Mussorgsky, Pictures at the Exhibition
- Debussy, Préludes, Book 1
- Debussy, Études
- Scriabin, Études, Op. 8
- Rachmaninoff, Morceaux de fantaisie, Op. 3
- Rachmaninoff, Six moments musicaux, Op. 16
- Ravel, Sonatine
- Bartók, Suite, Op. 14
- Prokofiev, Toccata, Op. 11
- Prokofiev, Sonata, Opp. 1, 14, 28, 29, and 38/135
- Adams, China Gates

Senior

- J.S. Bach, Partita, BWV 825 to 830
- J.S. Bach, Toccata, BWV 910 to 916
- Beethoven, Sonata, Opp. 101 to 111
- Beethoven, Concerto, Op. 58 and Op. 73
- Schubert, Sonata, D. 958, 959, and 960
- Chopin, Sonata, Op. 35 and Op. 58
- Chopin, Concerto, Op. 11 and Op. 21
- Schumann, Sonata, Opp. 11, 21, and 14
- Schumann, Fantasy, Op. 17
- Liszt, Études d'exécution transcendante (any)
- Liszt, Concert Paraphrase on Rigoletto by Verdi
- Liszt, Années de pèlerinage, Deuxième année: Italie- No. 7 Après une lecture du Dante
- Liszt, Sonata
- Brahms, Variations on a theme by Paganini, Op. 35

- Brahms, Fantasien Op. 116, 3 Intermezzi Op. 117, and Klavierstücke Opp. 118 and 119
- Albeniz, Iberia (any books)
- Debussy, Préludes, Book 2
- Debussy, Estampes
- Debussy, Images, Book 1 and Book 2
- Granados, Goyescas
- Scriabin, Sonata, Opp. 6, 19, 23, 30, and 53
- Rachmaninoff, Preludes, Op. 23 and Op. 32
- Rachmaninoff, Études-Tableaux, Op. 33 and Op. 39
- Rachmaninoff, Sonata No. 2 Op. 36
- Rachmaninoff, Variations on a theme by Corelli, Op. 42
- Ravel, Jeux d'eau
- Ravel, Miroirs
- Ravel, Le Tombeau de Couperin
- Bartók, Sonata
- Bartók, Out of Doors
- Prokofiev, Sonata, Opp. 82, 83, 84, and 103
- Shostakovich, Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87
- Ginastera, Sonata No. 1, Op. 22
- Corigliano, Fantasia on an Ostinato