

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. **COURSE ID:** MUS. 314 **TITLE:** Piano Literature & Performance - The Baroque Era
Units: 2.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 24.0-27.0 Lecture hours; 24.0-27.0 Lab hours; and 48.0-54.0 Homework hours

Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or P/NP)

Recommended Preparation:

Prior piano playing experience and music reading knowledge.

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**

Degree Credit

Transfer credit: CSU; UC

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

Catalog Description:

This course focuses on the study and performance preparation of keyboard literature from the baroque period. The class will explore stylistic characteristics of baroque keyboard music, advancements in keyboard instruments of the time, general historical climate, and specific stylistic considerations of the main keyboard composers. Focus will remain on performance practice and the preparation and performance in a class situation of representative repertoire. Individual practice outside of class hours is required.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Prepare and perform works from the baroque period demonstrating the ability to interpret the music stylistically appropriately.
2. Demonstrate a general understanding of the style of the baroque period as it relates to keyboard technique, main keyboard composers, and the literature.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of various possible practice techniques available to the pianist to address the technical and stylistic challenges of the period's repertoire.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Study, prepare and perform at least two works from the baroque period demonstrating the ability to interpret the music stylistically appropriately.
2. Demonstrate a general understanding of the style of the baroque period as it relates to keyboard technique, main keyboard composers, and the literature.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of various possible practice techniques available to the pianist to address the technical and stylistic challenges of the period's repertoire.

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**

Lecture Content:

1. Historical context
 - A. Basic history and overview of the baroque period and style
 - B. History and evolution of keyboard instruments up through the baroque period
 - C. Basic overview of main baroque keyboard composers and their output
2. Baroque Keyboard Technique
 - A. The contrapuntal style
 - B. Articulation
 - C. Pedalling
 - D. Mordents
 - E. Phraseology
 - F. Practice techniques relating to the style
3. Performance
 - A. How to prepare for a performance
 - B. Techniques for dealing with performance anxiety
 - C. Staying focused

Lab Content:

Students practice techniques and skills from lecture with peers and instructor.

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Lab
- C. Discussion
- D. Individualized Instruction
- E. Observation and Demonstration
- F. Other (Specify): The primary instructional method will be through observation and demonstration from both instructor and students. Additional instructional methods will include short lectures and discussions relating to historical and technical considerations.

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Reading Assignments:

Assigned reading from text/s as well as from other sources

Other Outside Assignments:

individual practice

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Class Performance
- C. Final Performance
- D. Final Public Performance
- E. Papers
- F. Research Projects
- G. Other: 1. Weekly one-on-one evaluation by instructor on each student's progress 2. Written reflections by students at the end of the semester on the technical challenges presented and the practice methods learned as they apply to their pieces

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Sinn, D.R.. *Playing Beyond the Notes: A Pianist's Guide to Musical Interpretation*, ed. Oxford University Press, 2013
- B. Kirby, F.E.. *Music for Piano: A Short History*, ed. Amadeus Press, 2000
- C. Marlais, H. *Succeeding with the Masters - the Baroque Era*, ed. FJH Music, 2004

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Course Originator: Jane Jackson