

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. **COURSE ID:** MUS. 315 **TITLE:** Piano Literature & Performance: The Classical 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:

Study and perform keyboard literature from the classical period: Learn stylistic norms, advancements in keyboard instruments of the time, general historical climate, and specific stylistic considerations of the main keyboard composers. Focus is 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 classical period demonstrating the ability to interpret the music in the appropriate style.
2. Demonstrate a general understanding of the style of the classical period as it relates to keyboard technique, main keyboard composers, and literature.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of various 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 classical period demonstrating the ability to interpret the music stylistically appropriately.
2. Demonstrate a general understanding of the style of the classical period as it relates to keyboard technique, main keyboard composers, and the literature.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of various 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 classical era and style
 - B. Basic overview of main classical keyboard composers and their output
2. Classical Era Keyboard Technique
 - A. Advancements in keyboard manufacturing & it's effect on composition & technique
 - B. Articulation
 - C. Pedalling
 - D. Aesthetics
 - E. 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 and 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. Kirby, F.E.. *Music for Piano: A Short History*, ed. Amadeus Press, 2000
- B. Sinn, D.R.. *Playing Beyond the Notes: A Pianist's Guide to Musical Interpretation*, ed. Oxford University Press, 2013
- C. Marlais, H. *Succeeding with the Masters - the Classical Era*, ed. FJH Music, 2004

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Course Originator: Jane Jackson