

**PIANO PEDAGOGY II: ELEMENTARY LEVEL**  
**4182 Spring 2017**  
**Wed 3:30-5:10pm**  
**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA**  
**Dr. Carol Gingerich**  
**Phone: 678-839-6273 email: cginger@westga.edu**  
**Humanities Room 335**  
**Office Hours as Posted**

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To gain an introduction to a wide variety of elementary piano teaching materials.
2. To survey standard beginner group curricula such as Musikgarten and Kindermusik.
3. To consider materials and methods for teaching adult beginners.
4. To assist in the acquisition and organization of personal pedagogical materials for elementary piano students.
5. To become confident in describing and evaluating piano teaching methods for their strengths and weaknesses as pedagogical tools.
6. To make application of the above ideas for both private and group piano lessons, especially considering the use of technology.
7. To strengthen teaching skills through the experience of various teaching practica.
8. To consider practical matters of the profession such as studio management and policies, taxes, health insurance and professional organization membership.
9. To explore standard elementary repertoire outside of the method books.
10. To define early, mid and late elementary repertoire categories.
11. To place special emphasis on teaching jazz, improvisation and composition.

## MATERIALS

Places to Order Music  
(in general say “hold until complete”)

- i) Music Time 1-800-932-0824 or [www.musictime.com](http://www.musictime.com)
- ii) Burt & Co 1-800-548-2878 [www.burtnco.com](http://www.burtnco.com)
- iii) Prima Music 877-877-5743 or [www.primamusic.com](http://www.primamusic.com)
- iv) Hutchins and Rea 1-800-753-BACH (2224) or 770-455-3130  
[hutchinsandrea.com](http://hutchinsandrea.com)
- v) JW Pepper 1-800-345-6296 [www.PianoAtPepper.com](http://www.PianoAtPepper.com)
- vi) [www.sheetmusicplus.com](http://www.sheetmusicplus.com) *HIGHLY RECOMMENDED*

### **Required:**

Uszler, M., S. Gordon and S. McBride-Smith. The Well-Tempered Keyboard Teacher, 2nd edition. New York: Schirmer Books, 2000. (to be used all 4 semesters)

A Dozen a Day, Mini Book, Edna Mae Burnam. Willis Music Co (# 10015)

1st Steps in Keyboard Literature ed by L. Olsen (Alfred # 2385)

Adult Piano Adventures Book 1 (All-in-one lesson book: With Online Media, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition), Faber, FJH Music

Creative Music 2 revised Robert Pace (Hal Leonard #00372314 )

Music for Piano Book 1 revised, Robert Pace (Hal Leonard # 00372121)

### **Recommended:**

Invitation to Music (Bastien, Kjos)

Theory and Ear Training Party Book A

Piano 101, Lancaster, Renfrow (Alfred 17179) **with CD**

Musi-Physi-Cality, S. Bernstein (Hal Leonard 50481476)

Vacation Magic, Bastien

## ASSIGNMENTS

Teaching Practicum - you will teach one elementary level student for 10 half- hour lessons in addition to the Observed Teaching Demonstration

- you will continue to use Faber and Faber, intervallic reading and syllabic counting
- this is your laboratory to experiment with the ideas we discuss in class and specific teaching topics will be assigned from our class content
- the final teaching portfolio will include:
  - a) specific semester objectives for technique, repertoire and musicianship (one page)
  - b) your teaching philosophy, revised (0.5 page)
  - c) 10 lesson plans (1.5 -2 pages each), Objective-Procedure-Evaluation format
  - d) description and evaluation of student at beginning of semester (0.5 pages) and end of semester (0.5 pages)
  - e) one lesson must directly incorporate technology to teach Musicianship (state next to Lesson Plan number)
  - f) one lesson must utilize improvisation or composition(state by #)
  - g) an evaluation of your student's REQUIRED recital performance

It should be approximately 15-20 single spaced pages in length and may contain lists, point form descriptions, charts and essays.

### Observed Teaching Demonstration

- you will teach your practicum student and I will observe your teaching in my studio
- you will hand in a lesson plan one week in advance for a Pre-Lesson Conference
- I reserve "butt-in" privileges and may also interact with you and your student
- teach 15-20 minutes, discuss for 10 minutes
- complete written and video self evaluation
- for at least 7 minutes teach technique: scales or A Dozen a Day, or Technique and Artistry

### Methods Comparison

- a summary of ALL of the methods discussed to use for future reference
- evaluative categories will be assigned
- choose the format most useful to you: computer tables, card file, poster chart

### Written Test

- memorized description and comparison of the methods covered

### Teacher Observation

- observe a private teacher teaching 2 different elementary students for one lesson each
- write report (2.5-3 pages) (1.5 pages for student)
- describe and evaluate: method book, motivation, Teaching Style, studio brochure, method of teaching pitch and rhythm, strengths, weaknesses, etc
- do NOT include the teacher's name

## Pedagogy Projects: Group Teaching and/or Promotional

-choose 3 activities from below, at least ONE must be GMTA

### ***I. Group Teaching***

-overall goal is to DRILL in a creative manner

#### **Option A: Practice Tutor with Lesson Plan**

-tutor a Keyboard Skills II or IV student for ONE 20 minute session

-you will create:

##### a) Lesson Plan

-1/2 page lesson plan based upon 1-2 Objectives Dr. Gingerich or Miss Adams will give, but at the lesson should also work on items the student requests

-indicate page # in text and title of exercise

-include specific drill steps such as RH 2x slowly, HT LH blocked chords, etc

##### b) Lesson Summary

--state date and time of lesson, 1/4 page

-2-3 sentences describing successes, failures and suggested improvements

-TOTAL length (a and b) 3/4 page

#### **Option B: Practice Tutor without Lesson Plan**

-tutor a Keyboard Skills I or III student for TWO 20 minute sessions (total 40 minutes but occurs at 2 separate times)

-may plan with student in advance or simply tutor their requests of the day, but no written Lesson Plan is required

- for EACH 20 minute session write a Lesson Summary stating date and time of lesson, and consisting of 2-3 sentences describing what occurred, successes, failures and suggested improvements

-total for BOTH sessions 4-6 sentences

#### **Option C: Teach Keyboard Skills II or IV Class**

-teach a UWG Keyboard Skills class for 15 minutes

-teach 1-2 topics from Alfred's Group Piano for Adults I or II, as assigned by Dr. Gingerich or Miss Adams

-create a lesson plan (1.5-2 pages) and hand in one week in advance- revise as suggested

### ***III. Promotional Media***

#### **a) Media Creation**

- creation of media promoting piano and piano pedagogy studies at UWG

-possibly: website video, Facebook entries, tweets, Youtube video, own choice

-details created in consultation with Dr. Gingerich

Homework

-various written and verbal assignments will be given

Attendance and Class Participation

- attendance is taken on a daily basis

-it is desired that students will act in a professional manner by arriving to class in a timely manner. Late arrivals will be reflected in the attendance portion of the grade.

-class participation in discussions and exercises is noted

**ACADEMIC POLICIES**Excused Absences

If you wish to be able to make up work you have missed you will need to have one of the UWG professionals below send Dr. G an email. Tests, performances, homework reports, and class presentations cannot be rescheduled except for excused absences

a) Physical Health: Health Services Patient Advocate(Jill Hendricks, Corey Hindman)

b) Emotional Health: UWG Cares: [www.westga.edu/UWGCares](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares)

c) Academic⊕time management, learning disabilities): EXCEL Center: [www.westga.edu/excel](http://www.westga.edu/excel)

d) Miscellaneous: Dean of Students Office: [www.westga.edu/vpsa](http://www.westga.edu/vpsa)

e) UWG music instructor concerning date and time of departure for an ensemble tour or conference.

**It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the information concerning the Excused Absence is sent to Dr. Gingerich within two weeks of the absence and is complete.** (highly recommended: ask them to cc the student). **It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed work, by contacting their "piano buddy."**

**Please note: communication regarding absences is via email only. Dr. Gingerich is well qualified to assist the musical and pianistic problems. But for reasons of confidentiality and in order to obtain the best professional advice, assistance for situations which are non musical or non pianistic must be provided by one of the UWG professional listed above.**

Email – Official communication is through "my.westga.edu" accounts only

Extra Credit – as described within and is granted after completion of all regular projects. Work utilized in other courses is not permissible.

Late Assignments – receive a grade of 0%. All assignments are due at the beginning of class.

Written Assignments - must be typed SINGLE spaced using 12 point font, 1" Left and Right margins, 1.5" top and bottom margins, and STAPLED in order to receive full credit.

Additional Information – available at

<http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies>

## EVALUATION

Teaching Practicum	30%
Observed Teaching Demonstration	10%
Methods Comparison	10%
Written Test	5%
Teacher Observation	8%
Pedagogy Projects (3 at 4% each)	12%
Attendance and Participation	5%
Homework	20%
Bonus Points	up to 4%
[Tutor additional KS, additional pedagogy projects, etc (needs Dr. Gingerich's permission)]	

## GRADING

90-100A     /80-90B     /70-80C     /60-70D     Below 60F

**SYLLABUS**  
(subject to change)

1. Jan 11 Introduction to Syllabus  
Practicum and UWG Piano Project Organization
2. Jan 18 Teaching Pitch and Rhythm  
Experiential Learning  
Use of Questions  
Lesson Plan Design  
Methods Evaluation Criteria
3. Jan 25 GMEA Conference - TBD  
Use of Drill  
Elementary Technique: A Dozen a Day, Technique and Artistry, scales  
Adult Beginners: Psychology and Motivation  
Faber: Adult Piano Adventures  
**Must Own All Required Materials**  
**Teaching Practicum Begins**
4. Feb 1 Robert Pace  
Studio Management: Taxation, Health Insurance,  
Professional Memberships
5. Feb 8 Robert Pace  
Studio Management: Policies, Brochure, Recitals  
Adjudication
6. Feb 15 Studio Management: Role of Parent (video)  
Frances Clark  
Composition, Improvisation  
On-line Musicianship Resources
7. Feb 22 Frances Clark  
Celebrate Piano  
Group Teaching Methods  
Group Teaching Technology  
Alfred's Group Piano for Adults 1
8. Mar 1 Memorization: Recital Preparation  
Definition of Early-Mid-Late Elementary  
Ist Steps in Keyboard Literature

9. Mar 8	Young Beginner Group Curricula: Kindermusik, Musikgarten UWG Library Tour
10. Mar 15	<b>Observed Teaching Demonstration</b>
11. Mar 29	<u>Ist Steps in Keyboard Literature</u> Adult Methods: Alfred, Bastien, Clark
12. Apr 5	Alfred Bastien (summer also) Hal Leonard Adult Methods: Alfred, Bastien, Clark <b>Teacher Observation Due</b> <b>Written Test</b>
13. Apr 12	Teaching Beginning Jazz <b>1 Pedagogy Project Due</b>
14. Apr 19	Supplemental Repertoire <b>2 Pedagogy Projects Due</b>
15. Apr 26	<b>TBA 5:30pm Student Recital</b> <b>Teaching Practicum and Methods Comparison Due</b>
Exam Week	No Final Exam!