

MUS 1511 and 1512

Introduction to Performance Study

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Studio B 141

### Course Description

Introduction to Performance Study in pianoforte will include individual instruction in piano technique, performance preparation and basic musicianship skills that will foster independent and self-motivated learners. This course is also the introduction for the performance study curriculum at GW. It will begin the student's understanding that the act of performance includes technique, musicianship, a knowledge of the music from a historical perspective, and the ability to communicate this understanding.

### Course Objectives

Music 1512 is designed to build on the foundation of the student's prior work, emphasizing increased independence in making technical and musical decisions, building mastery of technique, and broadening exposure to a variety of musical styles and traditions. Lesson content is individually determined, with repertoire selected to achieve the aforementioned goals. Students will develop their skills at matching such choices to the general musical intent of the repertoire, and begin to develop their abilities to conceive and execute increasingly nuanced interpretations.

### Expected Learning Outcomes

On completing study at the 1512 level in this area students will be able to:

#### Musicianship

Use basic practical musicianship skills in performing and become more skilled in sight-reading

Demonstrate basic understanding of printed markings, regardless of language

#### Technique

Basic knowledge of technique i.e. scales and arpeggios connected with the repertoire performed, as well as other exercises designed to improve performance .

Application of technical knowledge to solving problems in performance preparation

#### Repertoire

Perform in a variety of literature and styles, as assigned, with an emphasis on developing stylistic awareness.

Perform repertoire from at least 2 styles or periods

#### Research/Writing

Evaluate performances as assigned and write responses that relate to your performance study

Basic ability to synthesize information through writing and conversation supporting their understanding of performance and its reception .

#### Performance

Demonstrate an emerging understanding of piano technique, and an ability to perform using that technique.

Demonstrate an emerging knowledge of period style, musical affect and performance practice.

#### Critical Understanding

Articulate performance choices that demonstrate a beginning understanding of historical context.

Speak with a basic ability to synthesize information about performance choices.

#### Attendance

Lessons per semester = 13

Faculty are not obligated to schedule make-up lessons for those missed due to student absences, either excused or unexcused, (including illness, vacation, etc.). Excused absences can include religious holidays, poor health, (with a note from the health center or other medical professional), family emergency, or other events determined in advance by the faculty. There will be no negative impact on a student's grade for excused absences.

In the event of instructor cancellation, a make-up date will be scheduled. Faculty and students should agree upon the best means of communicating attendance information.

If a student registers after the first (or second) scheduled lesson, that lesson (or lessons) will not be taught, nor count against the student's grade or attendance.

An instructor may substitute one instructor-led event for a lesson, such as a studio recital or workshop.

Unexcused absences will effect a semester grade in the following manner:

-One unexcused absence – the impact on the semester final grade will be at the discretion of the instructor.

-Two unexcused absences – the grade will be lowered by one full grade (ex. from A to B)

-Each subsequent absence – lowers the grade one incremental step (ex. from B to B-)

#### Assignments

Weekly lesson preparation

##### **Required Attendance at Performances**

**One professional performance - non- GW**

**Senior Recital by Jodie Zhang fellow student, April 12th 7.30pm B 120,--  
Vijay Iyer concert Lisner Auditorium April 16th 7.30pm,-- Senior Recital  
by fellow student Helena hong April 21st at 5pm B120,- All Piano Concert  
April 29th 7.30 pm B 120.**

4 GW recitals/performances (3 piano and chamber music, one other, i.e.. orchestra/band/, voice etc.)

Attend and perform for the studio recital/workshop

Listening assignment

Write a critique of the piece assigned. You will be given specific guidelines for this assignment.

Reading assignments

2 readings will be assigned throughout the semester. The reading will be discussed in the lesson and applied to the technical work and repertoire study.

Keep your music, handouts, etc in a 3-ring binder. Have two copies of your music at your lessons.

#### Grading

All students will be graded on lesson attendance, preparation and completion of supplementary assignments such as concert attendance, listening and reading.

Your semester grade will be derived from your assignments

-At each lesson a grade will be assigned based on your continuing technical work and

repertoire assigned (50% of the weekly grade)

-Also factored into each week's grade will be the assignment for the week, i.e.,

listening/

reading/studio recital, etc. (50% of the weekly grade)

Each lesson is graded based on the previous weeks assignment and that grade is assigned based on the rubrics attached to this syllabus, which will include over the course of the semester the following components related to the expected learning outcomes:

- Musicianship assignments
- Technical exercises
- Repertoire that is meeting preparation and performance goals
- Reading/writing assignments
- Listening assignments

Only students who make truly excellent progress will receive an A. To earn an A in this studio, you must engage in the study of piano at both the technical and intellectual levels. Your success is directly related to the quantity and quality of your preparation each week, your willingness to experiment, take risks, and use your imagination to achieve the most expressive musical outcome possible. Students are expected to practice daily for a minimum time equivalent to their lesson length.

University Policy on Religious Holidays:

- Students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance;
- Faculty should extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations;
- Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday should arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities

Academic Integrity

I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states: "Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information." For the remainder of the code, see: HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html>"<http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html>

Support for Students Outside of the Classroom

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)

Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services office at 202-994-8250 in the Marvin Center, Suite 242, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information please refer to:

HYPERLINK "<http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/>"<http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/>

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (UCC) 202-994-5300

The University Counseling Center (UCC) offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career, and study skills problems. Services for students include:

- crisis and emergency mental health consultations
- confidential assessment, counseling services (individual and small group), and referrals

HYPERLINK

"<http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServi>

ces/"p://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices

### Security

In the case of an emergency, if at all possible, the class should shelter in place. If the building that the class is in is affected, follow the evacuation procedures for the building. After evacuation, seek shelter at a predetermined rendezvous location.

### Resources

For questions about departmental requirements, majoring or minoring in Music, credit and curriculum issues: Schedule an appointment with a full-time Music faculty member, details on hours are on the bulletin board outside the office. The earlier you seek guidance on a possible major or minor, the more likely the requirements can be integrated with your other studies.

General assistance: Department office staff Joshua and Megan can help with anything.

Gelman Library: Check out the collection of CDs and music. Listening is a wonderful way to improve your aural skills.

You are in the middle of a very artistic city. The department office sends emails with performance announcements to the student listserve; student discounts are frequently available. Check the bulletin boards and office doors throughout the department for concert announcements. Most Smithsonian museums offer concert series, as does the Library of Congress.

All communication from your performance instructor and the music department is through your GW email account. Please plan on checking this account regularly and responding promptly.