

**Music 140/142 - Beginning Class Piano  
-Syllabus -**

**A. Course Content:** This course structured to correlate those musical skills, techniques and understandings that are basic to comprehensive keyboard musicianship at the early level of study. With both the LH and RH the student will learn to play: 1) 5 finger patterns in major and minor keys, 2) all major and minor triads, 3) common chord progressions. The student also will learn to sight-read and transpose simple pieces there by demonstrating a rudimentary knowledge of the elements of music (i.e. pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo and expression).

**B. Required Materials:**

1. Bastien, Jane Smisor; Piano for Adults. Book 1
2. Ensemble Pieces – Will be chosen by the instructor

**C. Attendance Policy:** Regular class attendance is expected and recorded. *Leaving class early during lab period will constitute an absence.* Poor attendance will lower student's grade. No other class sessions are required other than the two weekly meetings and the final performance exam.

**D. Policy on Homework & Quizzes:** There are no written assignments however, guitar performance requires 2 to 3 hours of practice in and out of class. 5 performance quizzes (play for the teacher) will be given during the semester. Makeup quizzes will not be given unless a *prior* agreement is made with the instructor.

**E. Grading Policy:** 10% = Class participation & attendance  
50% = Average of all solo performance quizzes (5-total)  
20% = Mid-Term Exam (written)  
20% = Final Exam: Piano Ensemble Concert  
(Date: TBA - Attendance is mandatory)

**F. Office Hrs:** Office Hours: MW-9-10am & 4:30-5pm  
T&T 8-830am & 12-1:30pm

Dr. Van's Office Phone: 355-6205  
Email: [van.decker@imperial.edu](mailto:van.decker@imperial.edu)

**Accommodations:** *Any student with a documented disability (i.e. learning, physical, psychological, vision, hearing, etc) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and Disable Student Programs and Services at the beginning of the semester.*

## General Classroom Rules

**Cell Phones:** The use of cell phones are not permitted during class. Students should switch their phones “off” or to “vibrate” during class time. If the student must take or make a call, then he/she should step outside of the classroom before talking.

**Disruptive Students:** Most of you are here to learn, but some students are not serious. To preserve a productive learning environment, students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with Sergio Lopez, Campus Disciplinary officer, before returning to continue with coursework. Mr. Lopez will follow disciplinary procedures as outlined in the General Catalog.

**Cheating and Plagiarism.** IVC expects honesty and integrity from all students. A student found to have cheated on any assignment or plagiarized will receive a zero for the assignment and sent to Disciplinary Officer Sergio Lopez. A second occurrence of cheating or plagiarism may result in dismissal from class and expulsion from IVC as outlined in the General Catalog.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every class session. Any student who misses the first class will be dropped. Students will be dropped at instructor if they after the third unexcused absence. However, a student may be excused if the instructor is notified before class and he or she has a good reason. Also, it is the student’s responsibility to keep up with all missed assignments if he or she cannot attend a class session.