

MUSC 141  
INTERMEDIATE KEYBOARD SKILLS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN

Linfield College  
Spring 2016  
VBMC 141

Credit Hours: 1

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**Disability statement for the McMinnville campus:**

Students with disabilities are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you are a student with a disability and feel you may require academic accommodations please contact Learning Support Services (LSS), as early as possible to request accommodation for your disability. The timeliness of your request will allow LSS to promptly arrange the details of your support. LSS is located in Melrose Hall 020 (503-883-2562). We also encourage students to communicate with faculty about their accommodations.

**Academic integrity:**

This course adheres to the college policy on academic honesty, as published in the Linfield College Course Catalog (p. 18). It is your responsibility to review it and to communicate promptly with me when in doubt of a potential violation.

**Attendance policy:**

Please review the policies below concerning excused/unexcused absences and their effect on your course grade. If you have any concerns about attendance or your ability to attend class, please, *do not wait until the last minute to see me.*

**E-mail policy for excused absences:**

Reasons for excused absences, including illness, must be communicated to me by e-mail. Any absence lacking an e-mailed explanation will be marked unexcused.

**Excused vs. unexcused absences, and their effect on course grade:**

Any absence not recorded in an e-mail to me, or any absence for reasons other than illness, emergency, or approved field trips and academic/athletic activities (Linfield Course Catalog p. 16), will be marked an unexcused absence.

Four or more unexcused absences = automatic failing grade (F) for the semester.  
Six or more excused absences = incomplete (I) for the semester. (Catalog p. 14)

**Assignment grading rubric:**

I will evaluate your submitted work – including all homework assignments and exams – using percentages, letter grades, or pass/fail as appropriate to the assignment.

Assignments that quiz your understanding of a specific skill will be graded P/F.  
Pass = 100%, Fail = 0%.

Assignments that are more qualitative in nature will be given a letter grade.

Letter grades will be converted as follows: A+ (100%), A (95%), A- (91%); B+ (89%), B (85%), B- (81%); C+ (79%), C (75%), C- (71%); D+ (69%), D (65%), D- (61%); F (0%–59%, at my discretion).

**Semester grading rubric:**

Your semester grade will consist of the following components.

Keyboard assignments and quizzes	40%
Midterm exam	15%
Final project and/or exam	25%
Punctuality, participation, and evidence of best effort	20%

When calculating your semester grade I will use the following rubric to translate percentages to letter grades.

A = 92-100 %	<i>excellent comprehension of the material; exceptional performance</i>
A- = 90-91.9	
B+ = 88-89.9	<i>above average capability; better than normal performance</i>
B = 82-87.9	
B- = 80-81.9	
C+ = 78-79.9	<i>adequate understanding of material; acceptable performance</i>
C = 72-77.9	
C- = 70-71.9	
D+ = 68-69.9	<i>marginal comprehension of material; below average performance</i>
D = 60-67.9	
F = 59.9 or less	<i>inability to deal successfully with material; inadequate performance</i>

**Late assignments:**

Late assignments will be accepted without penalty on a case-by-case basis. It is your responsibility to communicate with me if you think you will need to submit an assignment late. I will deduct a letter grade (10%) per class day after the due date if no reasons are given for the late submission. An unexcused absence from an exam or presentation = an automatic zero (0%) for that exam or presentation.

**Exams dates:**

Mid-term **Wednesday, March 16**

Final exam **1:00 P.M. Tuesday, May 24**

**Required materials:**

Texts: Schultz, *Scales and Chords In All the Major and Minor Keys*

A neatly kept folder or binder for handouts

Regular access to a piano or keyboard, including weekends (*\*see Shelly Sanderlin in the Music Office if you do not have swipe-card access to VBMC*)

**Prerequisite:**

Completed or concurrent enrollment in Theory/ETSS I or III.

**Course overview:**

Beginning KPM parallels the written curriculum of the theory/ETSS major track. Assignments will be given in coordination with the schedule of topics studied in Theory/ETSS I-IV. The primary goal of the course is to ensure a minimum proficiency in playing scales and chord progressions at the keyboard. Through individual and small-group instruction, students will also develop their skills in score reading, clef reading and transposition, improvisation, elementary piano technique, and analysis and performance of standard keyboard literature.

Prior knowledge of the piano is neither assumed nor required. Beginning KPM is intended primarily for Linfield music majors.

**Student objectives:**

1. Demonstrate mastery of the major and minor scales in all keys and all qualities at the piano, with correct fingering.
2. Demonstrate fluency in playing harmonic paradigms and progressions.
3. Demonstrate improved facility at the keyboard through #1 and #2 as well as through exercises in reading, transposition, and improvisation.
4. Prepare one work from the standard keyboard literature (17<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> centuries) *or* one work relating to the student's major performance area (i.e. choral reductions, accompaniments, orchestral pieces), for evaluation during the final exam. The work must be learned *in its entirety* (single movements are accepted as complete works). It may be played under tempo.

**Assignments:**

Assignments will be given in response to individual student progress and needs.

