MUS 382
Piano Lessons Elective

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Office Hours: By appointment; Schedule will be posted outside Room 15, Patterson Hall

Central to the purpose of these lessons is the preparation of the student for the piano proficiency exam. In addition, supportive repertoire and technical studies will be assigned as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Attendance at all lessons is a requirement. In the event of excused absence, the instructor must be notified no later than 24 hours prior to the lesson.

Grading criteria includes preparation, attitude, attendance and practice habits.

Academic Integrity – this policy is ready available in the First year guide (pg. 159) as well as the Student Handbook (pg. 22) and on the Westminster College website. You should become acquainted with this policy.
Piano Proficiency Requirements
(Revised Fall, 2009)

Passing the piano proficiency exam is a requirement for all Bachelor of Music majors and music minors with a major in Elementary Education. Students must pass the exam before their senior year. The exam is offered at the end of each semester. All elements of the exam must be tested at this time.

Technical Skills

1. Major scales: All Major Scales played two octaves, hands alone. Fingering must be accurate to pass and scales must be played without hesitation in a steady tempo.
2. Minor scales: All harmonic minor scales played two octaves, hands alone. Fingering must be accurate to pass and scales must be played without hesitation in a steady tempo.
3. Play all major triads and inversions ascending and descending two octaves, hands together.
4. Five finger scale pattern in all major keys. Fingering is same for all keys.

Applied Skills

5. Harmonization: harmonize a melody with lead sheet symbols (chord symbols). Play steady tempo without hesitation or incorrect chords.
6. Transposition: transpose melody from harmonization either up/down a half step/whole step. Play steady tempo without hesitation or incorrect chords.
7. Improvisation: Free style, at least eight bars.
8. Accompanying/open score: Prepare one high school level choral piece. Be able to demonstrate open score reading of three consecutive vocal parts. Correct rhythms, notes and a steady tempo are required to pass.
9. Hymn/sight reading: Sight read a hymn. The hymn is selected at the time of the piano proficiency and can not be prepared in advance. Selected hymns will not have more than three sharps/flats.
10. Star Spangled Banner: Play any version in a steady tempo. Memorization is not required.