



**COWLEY COLLEGE
& Area Vocational Technical School**

COURSE PROCEDURE FOR

**PIANO FOR PLEASURE
MUS2681 1 Credit Hour**

Student Level:

This course is open to students on the college level in either the freshman or sophomore year.

Catalog Description:

MUS 2681 - PIANO FOR PLEASURE (1hr)

Designed as the study of elemental techniques in pianoforte performance to attain skills and understanding for personal musical development for leisure and self-satisfaction. No previous study is required.

Prerequisites:

None

Controlling Purpose:

This course is intended to provide a method of guiding the adult beginner in learning the skills of playing the piano for pleasure. The stimulus of groups learning will provide an incentive for accomplishments. The course will emphasize functional skills and basic keyboard techniques.

Learner Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate basic skills necessary to function and perform at the keyboard for leisure.

Units Outcomes and Criterion Based Evaluation Key for Core Content:

The following defines the minimum core content not including the final examination period. Instructors may add other content as time allows.

Evaluation Key:

- A = All major and minor goals have been achieved and the achievement level is considerably above the minimum required for doing more advanced work in the same field.
- B = All major goals have been achieved, but the student has failed to achieve some of the less important goals. However, the student has progressed to the point where the goals of work at the next level can be easily achieved.
- C = All major goals have been achieved, but many of the minor goals have not been achieved. In this grade range, the minimum level of proficiency represents a person who has achieved the major goals to the minimum amount of preparation necessary for taking more advanced work in the same field, but without any major handicap of

- inadequacy in his background.
- D = A few of the major goals have been achieved, but the student's achievement is so limited that he is not well prepared to work at a more advanced level in the same field.
- F = Failing, will be computed in GPA and hours attempted.
- N = No instruction or training in this area.

UNIT 1: BASIC KEYBOARD SKILLS

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of reading simple musical notation.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Utilize finger numbers and identifying keys on the keyboard
						Read rhythms including whole, dotted half, half, quarter and eighth note values.
						Play black key melodies using the finger numbers.
						Reading middle C, treble clef G and bass clef F.
						Understand reading concepts of step (2nds) and skips (3rds).
						Improvise black key melodies with a given accompaniment.

UNIT 2: THE GRAND STAFF MUSIC NOTATION

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of the grand staff.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Playing with two hands in one clef and in both clefs (grand staff).
						Identify notes on the grand staff and play correct keys on the piano.
						Read intervals up to an octave.
						Play simple melodies within the five finger pattern.
						Play simple melodies hands together in parallel motion.

UNIT 3: RHYTHMS AND TIME SIGNATURES

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of rhythmic notation and time signatures.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Play whole, half, quarter, eighth and dotted note values.
						Play in simple and compound time signatures.
						Recognize music notation of rests by performing them correctly.
						Tap rhythmic exercises hands together.

UNIT 4: MAJOR AND MINOR SCALES

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of the major and minor scale patterns.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Find whole and half steps on the piano. Understand sharps, flats and naturals.
						Play pentascales and triads beginning on any key using legato touch.
						Play cross-hand arpeggios for major & minor keys, white keys only.
						Perform solo repertoire that utilizes five-finger patterns and transpose.
						Improvise melodies in major & minor five-finger patterns as the teacher plays an accompaniment.
						Play hands together a melody in parallel motion.
						Play one major octave scales, white keys only, hands separately.

UNIT 5: PIANO TECHNIQUES

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of playing staccato, two note slurs and using the pedals.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Play staccato and legato as indicated on music.
						Use correct wrist movement to execute two-note slurs.
						Use the sostenuto pedal correctly by having clean pedal changes.
						Recognize different notation symbols for pedal indications.
						Use all three pedals correctly.

UNIT 6: ENSEMBLE SKILLS/KEYBOARD MUSICIANSHIP

Outcomes: Student will demonstrate by performance, knowledge of ensemble playing and styles.

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Play simple pieces in an ensemble.
						Improvise a melody based on a major or minor pentascales.
						Play a melody (up to an octave) at sight.
						Harmonize a melody with the chord symbols given.
						Practice independently by learning a piece on student's own.
						Explain the differences between acoustic and digital pianos. Demonstrate basic knowledge of the care and maintenance of pianos.

Projects Required:

All major and minor pentascales and chords.
 Memorization and performance of two solo piano pieces.
 Others as assigned.

Textbook:

Contact Bookstore for current textbook.

Materials/Equipment Required:**Attendance Policy:**

Students should adhere to the attendance policy outlined by the instructor in the course syllabus.

Grading Policy:

The grading policy will be outlined by the instructor in the course syllabus.

Maximum class size:

Based on classroom occupancy

Course Timeframe:

The U.S. Department of Education, Higher Learning Commission and the Kansas Board of Regents define credit hour and have specific regulations that the college must follow when developing, teaching and assessing the educational aspects of the college. A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency

that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit or an equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. The number of semester hours of credit allowed for each distance education or blended hybrid courses shall be assigned by the college based on the amount of time needed to achieve the same course outcomes in a purely face-to-face format.

Refer to the following policies:

[402.00 Academic Code of Conduct](#)

[263.00 Student Appeal of Course Grades](#)

[403.00 Student Code of Conduct](#)

Disability Services Program:

Cowley College, in recognition of state and federal laws, will accommodate a student with a documented disability. If a student has a disability which may impact work in this class which requires accommodations, contact the Disability Services Coordinator.