



**Basic Course Information:**

**Spring Semester 2023**

**Course Prefix/Number: MUSC 110.01**  
**Course Title: Applied Lessons (Piano)**  
**Elective Course**  
**Instructional Modality: On-campus**  
**Class Location: C10**

**Instructor: Kinga Masternak**  
**Office Location: G305**  
**Email: kmasternak@auk.edu.kw**  
**Office Hours: UTR 8:00-10:00 am**

**AUK Mission Statement:**

The American University of Kuwait is a liberal arts institution dedicated to teaching, learning, and scholarship. The University offers programs that provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for lifelong learning and professional success. AUK enriches society by fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, effective communication, personal growth, service, and leadership.

**Department Mission Statement:**

The Department of Music and Drama explores music and drama in the context of a liberal arts education through both academic study and performances. By doing so, it provides artistic and cultural enrichment to the University and the surrounding community. Moreover, by educating students in culture, history, and theory, and providing training in applied skills, the Department fosters artistic proficiency, cultural appreciation, a sense of camaraderie, and a lifelong commitment to the arts.

**Catalog Course Description:**

Private intensive instrument instruction. May be repeated for 8 total earned credits. Permission of instructor.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

<b>Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)</b>
CLO1: read music notation
CLO2: understand music fundamentals and theory
CLO3: develop the basics of proper piano technique
CLO4: perform pieces of standard piano literature
CLO5: develop an understanding of music in relationship to history and culture

### **Course Delivery/Methodology:**

For this course we will be meeting in person once per week (2 credits-1hour class) or twice per week (3 credits - 2x45 minutes class) and material will be presented through lectures and videos. All course materials will be posted on Moodle, which can be accessed at [lms.auk.edu.kw](https://lms.auk.edu.kw). All projects/presentations must also be submitted through Moodle. You will be completing the following evaluations for this course: sight-reading and performance exams. To successfully complete this course, you must attend the classes regularly and actively participate in class discussions and activities. Students are also expected to submit all works by the posted due dates and times.

### **Required Textbook:**

There is no specific textbook for this course; all materials will be provided by your instructor (according to your level) and posted on Moodle.

### **Evaluations and Grading:**

<b>Evaluation Type</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Link to CLO</b>
Weekly grades	~4% per week	CLO1, CLO2, CLO3, CLO 5
Sight-Reading Exam	10%	CLO4 & CLO5
Midterm Exam	25%	CLO3 & CLO5
Final Exam	25%	CLO3 & CLO5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Weekly grades: Students are expected to come to their lesson with the assigned materials practiced.

Students should be properly prepared for the lesson. To this end, it is expected that students will practice at least **half-an-hour per day** (minimum 5 days per week). Lesson grades will be primarily based upon preparation for lessons and improvement over the course of study. Failure to adequately prepare for a lesson, demonstrated lack of interest in improvement, or failure to meet the expectations listed above or addressed by the instructor will result in deductions from the lesson grade. Weekly lesson grades will be given based upon the following system:

- 90-100- A (example- present on time with all assigned materials, excellent progress on assignments or other projects)
- 80-89- B (example- present on time with all assigned materials, good progress on assignments or other projects)
- 70-79- C (example- late to lesson and/or missing some assigned materials, "barely adequate" progress or other projects)
- 60-69- D (example- late to lesson and/or missing some assigned materials, inadequate progress or no sign of improvement or other projects)
- less than 60- failing (example- an unexcused absence, no progress on assignments)

Sight-Reading exam – you will be given a short piece of music that you haven’t seen before, you will be given a short time to prepare and then you will play it in front of the instructor.

Midterm exam is a class presentation of one or more works from assigned compositions learned during the first 8 weeks of classes.

Final exam is a presentation of one or more works from assigned compositions learned during the second 8 weeks of classes in front of jury.

**AUK Official Grading Scale:**

Letter Grade	Percentage	University Points
A	94-100	4.0
A-	90-93	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7
F	0-59	0.0

### **AUK Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to be present and on time at their scheduled lesson time. In case of illness, the instructor should be notified by telephone as soon as possible.

Any student who misses more than 15% of class sessions of any course during a semester should expect to fail, unless she/he submits documented evidence to the course instructor of inpatient medical care, death of an immediate family member, academic instructional activities, or national athletic activities. If excused, students are required to satisfy all coursework due or assigned during their absence as determined by the course instructor. If a student does not submit documented evidence for her/his absence exceeding the limit, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the course by the specified deadline, as indicated on the academic calendar. Students who withdraw from a course receive a grade of "W". Students who do not withdraw from a course nor submit supporting documents for excessive absences will receive a grade of "FN" (failure for non-attendance).

### **Code of Academic Honesty and Integrity:**

Upon admission to the American University of Kuwait, students agree to act responsibly in all areas of academic, personal, and social conduct and to take full responsibility for their individual and collective action. Such regulations are found in the American University of Kuwait Catalogue, Student Handbook, and the AUK website at [www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw). Any question of interpretation regarding the code of academic honesty and Integrity shall be reported to the appropriate academic dean. The Code shall be reviewed annually at the discretion of the academic deans. Any student or student organization found to have committed the cited violations or misconduct, either on or off campus, is subject to the disciplinary sanctions outlined in adjudication procedures.

### **Academic Support:**

Learning Support Services focuses on empowering students to become independent and successful learners by developing their literacy skills, enhancing their understanding, and helping them improve their academic and study skills. Learning Support Services is comprised of two centers: the Tutoring Center and the Writing Center. The Tutoring Center provides free academic support in various subjects to AUK student. Email: [tutoringcenter@auk.edu.kw](mailto:tutoringcenter@auk.edu.kw). The Writing Center provides multilingual support (English, Arabic, French, and Spanish) through individual or small-group consultations. Email: [writingcenter@auk.edu.kw](mailto:writingcenter@auk.edu.kw)

### **Disability Accommodations:**

AUK provides equal and inclusive educational environment in order to enable all students to meet and perform requisite academic standards and to participate in the opportunities and activities of its community. If you believe you can benefit from accommodations for a learning, physical, or mental health disability, [click here to book a session through the Counseling Center/Disability Services Booking Page](#), to ask about disability services at AUK, initiate an accommodation plan, or receive disability services. You can also email [counseling@auk.edu.kw](mailto:counseling@auk.edu.kw) if you need assistance in booking a session.

**Make-Up Work Policy:**

There is no make-up examinations or projects.

**Communication Policy:**

Please be sure to write your full name and indicate which class and section you are taking (MUSC 110) when you send me an email. If you have a question, please check the syllabus first and if your question is not answered there, then please feel free to send an email and I will be happy to clarify. I respond to emails within 24 hours of receiving them; if I do not respond within 24 hours, please re-send the email.

**Technology Issues:**

All projects must be submitted through Moodle. However, you may experience trouble submitting a project due to technology or internet issues. If such a situation does arise and you are unable to submit your project through Moodle, please send me an email and include the **completed** project. Please make sure that you email me the project **before** the deadline as this documents that you did finish everything by the due date and time, but that you just had a technology issue. This will ensure that your project will be accepted, and you will not receive a late penalty. Once the technology or internet issue is resolved, please upload the project to Moodle. In general, always be sure to frequently save your files and keep backups of your projects.

**Course Schedule:**

Week	Topic
1	Syllabus review.
2	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
3	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
4	<i>Spring Break</i>
5	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
6	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
7	<b>Review</b>
8	<b>Midterm</b>
9	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
10	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.

11	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
12	<i>Eid-Al-Fitr</i>
13	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
14	Piano technique (scales, arpeggios etc.), sight-reading exercises, work on assigned pieces.
15	<b>Review</b>
16	<b>Final Exam Week</b>

### **Syllabus Changes:**

There may be changes to the schedule and syllabus during the semester. When this happens, I will inform you in class and over email.