

Music 361/Section 0236 Spring/2012
“Commercial Piano Techniques”
T TH 8:00a.m. – 9:20a.m. DH 304

Instructor: Mr. David Stahl
(323) 953-4000 Ext. 2890
Music office Ext. 2880
stahldq@lacitycollege.edu

Text: Essentials of JAZZ THEORY (complete) by Shelton Berg, published by Alfred, manuscript paper

Description and Objectives: The intermediate piano student will be introduced to the jazz and pop oriented standard repertoire of songs. Chord voicings, comping chords and rhythms, the blues, the walking bass and basic improvisation will be covered, along with playing and writing simple arrangements from a lead sheet. The basic concepts of jazz harmony and some technical studies will complete the course.

The SLO (Student Learning Outcome) for this class is: Play selected commercial piano exercises and repertoire with correct notes, fingering, technique, rhythm, dynamics, and phrasing.

Written work: There will be worksheets handed out during the semester reinforcing the student's knowledge of theory and harmony.

Drills: There will be exercises and scales handed out during the semester which are to be played at the keyboard. These will reinforce the student's technical ability to execute the songs and improvisations in the repertoire.

Repertoire: There will be two class performances during the semester, preferably from memory, for the mid-term and for the final. There will be suggested repertoire and/or the student can suggest his own ideas for repertoire, but they must be approved by the instructor.

The class is repeatable three times. Returning students will cover more complex and new materials.

Grading: The student will be expected to perform pieces for the mid term and new pieces for the final. The student will be expected to complete all of the written worksheet assignments. The student will be expected to adequately perform the keyboard drills. There will be a final written exam. The following gives a basis for the grading.

Midterm test: 25%; Final test: 35%; Performances: 20%
Worksheets: 10%; Keyboard Drills: 10%;

You are strongly encouraged to sign up for Music 620/Section 8571. This is a 0.5 unit no credit/credit course that allows you to practice in the practice rooms. A minimum of 13 hours of practice lab time is required to receive credit for the class.

The final exam will be on Thursday, May 31, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. in DH 304
Last day to add: 2/11, Drop w/o fee: 2/21, w/o a 'W': 3/2, with a 'W': 5/4
Spring break: 4/2 thru 4/9