

Piano I Syllabus

Course Description:

Piano I is a one-semester course for beginner pianists, dedicated to providing a musically enriching experience for students who wish to keep music in their lives. Students will learn to play piano by ear and from music notation, while studying musical styles and introductory music theory.

Course Objectives:

- Develop healthy playing technique and posture
- Cultivate coordination of left and right hands
- Expand theoretical knowledge of music
- Develop self-evaluation techniques
- Explore stylistic elements

Units of Study:

1. Playing by ear
2. Introduction to playing from notation
3. Staccato v Legato
4. C, G, Csus, and F chords
5. G position
6. Shifting positions
7. Beyond 5-finger position
8. Scales
9. Chord progressions
10. Playing in F Major
11. Beyond

Musical Expectations:

- By the end of this course, students will be expected to successfully perform at least 4 pieces for memory from units 5 and above.
- By the end of this course, students will have the skillset required to teach themselves new beginner/intermediate piano music.

Behavioral Expectations:

- Respect: I promise to always treat you with respect, and I expect the same in return. I expect you to treat your peers, instrument, and classroom with respect.
- During group instruction:
 - Please remain actively engaged in the lesson
 - Please play only when and what you are asked to play; stop playing when asked to stop.
 - Please do not talk while I am talking or while a peer is talking
- During individual practice time:
 - Please stay on task
 - Please use this time to ask for help and receive feedback
- Phones/iPods/tablets: Only with permission, when needed for a specific purpose
- Food/Drink: None, in order to keep the pianos in good condition.

Grading:

- 70% Summative: Performance assessments
- 30% Formative: Classwork
- Assessments: You will be given deadlines to complete individual performance assessments, which may be completed during individual time. It is your responsibility to manage your time and complete assessments before given deadlines.

Contact Information

Ms. Emily S. Wilkins (Mrs. Fredericks)
Director of Choirs
Wilson High School
wilemi@wilsonsd.org (freemi@wilsonsd.org)
(610) 670-0180 x4915