

Faculty End-of Course *Reflection Summary*

Purpose of this course

(general discussion of the course, what it contains, what it contributes to student learning, student audience, where it “fits” in your program major curriculum, etc)

- I. **Technic** –To build a healthy keyboard technic and topographical knowledge of keys. Topics covered include; Major and minor 5-finger patterns, Major, Minor, Augmented, and Diminished triads in root position, Chord Inversions, Major Scales (C, G, D, A, E, F, B, F#, C#), and I-IV64-I-V65-I chord progressions (All Major Keys.) (Proficiency Standard 1)
- II. **Reading Skills** – To develop fluency and coordination necessary to read two staves simultaneously. Reading exercises will include Prepared Reading, Transposition, and Sight Reading. (Proficiency Standard 5, 6, 7)
- III. **Functional Harmony** – To develop an awareness of functional harmony at the keyboard. Activities will include playing by ear, harmonization with and without chord notation, and improvisation. (Proficiency Standard 2, 3, 4)
- IV. **Performance** – To develop a problem-solving mindset in the practice room which will lead to success in performance of solo and ensemble repertoire at the piano. (Proficiency Standard 6, 7)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

(insert the SLO’s from your syllabus)

Class Piano levels 1-3 prepare the student for success on the following student learning outcomes that aren’t fully realized until Class Piano Level 4.

1. The student will demonstrate fluency with basic keyboard technic. (Semester 4, T5)
2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of western harmonic practices through the appropriate harmonization and performance of a given melody. (Semester 4, FH 9)
3. The student will demonstrate the ability to improvise to a suggested form and harmonic motion. (Semester 4, FH 5)
4. The student will demonstrate the ability to use the piano to recreate music by ear. (Semester 4, FH7)
5. The student will demonstrate fluency in reading, at sight, two staves simultaneously of a piece of piano music at an appropriate level of difficulty. (Semester 4, RS 8)
6. The student will demonstrate necessary score study and rehearsal preparation skills by playing from open scores. (Semester 4, RS 7)
7. The student will demonstrate the ability to play collaboratively with other musicians. (Semester 4, PF 3)

Overall comments/impressions

What was different this time: (if appropriate - discuss and/or assessments Student Learning Outcomes that were new or modified from previous methodology)

The biggest difference was the integration of the musical theatre students in the same class with the music majors. I used the same syllabus but made some accommodations for the MT students such as untimed technique quizzes, etc. It worked quite well, and I would recommend doing the same moving forward.

What worked: (discuss specific SLO's and/or assessments that succeeded; comment on why it worked well)

In my opinion, everything about this course works well. I believe the curriculum to be well-rounded and true to the SLO's set in place for the 4-semester cycle.

What could be better: (describe SLO's and/or assessments that could have been better met; comment on why improvement is needed)

I believe the course objectives were met, and students were sufficiently prepared to move forward with the next level of class piano, leading to the eventual fulfillment of the stated SLO's in semester 4. All material was covered in a timely manner and true to the calendar provided in the syllabus. Exams were administered in the weeks designated (5 weeks, 10 weeks, final), and the material was sufficiently covered in preparation. Students were given sufficient time to prepare, and I believe my assessments were true and fair. Regarding what could be better, I need to be truer to the syllabus/Canvas regarding due dates and the submission of late assignments. Sometimes I'm guilty of being "too nice", enabling some students to become habitually lazy/irresponsible.

Suggested changes for this course: (discuss any "tweaks" you will implement, tied to specific SLO's; discuss your "vision" for this course the next time you teach it)

The only changes that were suggested to me by a well-respected colleague is the inclusion of some specific tunes to be included in the PBE's. I suggested she put those in an email to Dr. Conklin who created the curriculum. I'm planning to reach out to Dr. Conklin in the New Year regarding the suggestions to get his opinion/feedback.

Implications for technology, budget, etc.: (discuss potential improvement methodologies that would require additional budgetary support; e.g., software, classroom technology, student tutoring, computer technology)

I love the new ELMO which has been very helpful this semester. The camera that allows the students to see my hands is great (despite the slight time delay). I do however dream of new keyboards that "all" work equally well with headphones that work in both ears. The number of keyboards that no longer work with headphones has grown significantly this semester.