**MUED 791 PIANO PEDAGOGY**

**SYLLABUS**

**Fall 2017**

**Instructor: Dr. Molly Roseman**

**Class time: TBA**

**Location: NFAC 319**

**Learning Objectives**

Based on the premise that the graduate student has some experience with teaching or has prior pedagogical training from undergraduate studies, this course will tailor be tailored on topics in which the student wishes to further explore and research. Topics will include teaching strategies, materials, methods, teaching repertoire, and the psychology of teaching.

**Suggested Texts:**

1. ***Practical Piano Pedagogy*** by Dr. Martha Baker-Jordan. Warner Bros. Publication, 2004.
2. ***The Well-Tempered Keyboard Teacher*** by Uszler, Gordon, McBride-Smith. Cengage Learning, 2nd Edition, 1999.
3. ***Pianists Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature*** by Magrath. Alfred, 1995.
4. ***Guide to the Pianist’s Repertoire*** by Maurice Hinson and Wesley Roberts. Indiana Press, 4th edition, 2013.

**Required Readings:**

Assigned readings relevant to course topics will be required followed by a one-page written reflection per article. Articles are posted on D2L. Pertinent educational videos may be assigned to view (at least 2 will be required to view) and followed up with a written reflection. Consult the course outline regarding article/videos. All reflections are due by the last day of the semester, Friday, Dec. 15.

**Topic Outline**

1. Piano method series overview (week 1-4)
2. Motivating students (week 5)
3. Teaching technique (week 6-7)
4. Teaching advanced repertoire (week 8-11; no class on week 12)
5. Suzuki method (week 13-15)

**Graded Projects**

**Piano Method Series Comparative Study Due: Friday, 10/06/17 by 11:59 p.m in D2L dropbox**

Analyze the following piano methods located on reserve in the library. Your analysis should be based on the questions posted on D2L. Detailed instructions regarding this assignment are also posted on D2L under the “Content” section. Methods to be analyzed will be:

1. *Piano Adventures* by Faber and Faber
2. *Alfred Basic Library* by Willard Palmer
3. *The Music Tree* by Frances Clark, Louise Goss, & Samuel Holland
4. *Bastien Piano Basics* by James Bastien

### Pedagogical How-To Instruction Videos Due: Friday, 11/03/17 by 11:59 pm in D2L dropbox

### (provide links to your videos. Videos need to be posted on YouTube or Vimeo)

You are starting a video blog site for your students and will include 2 “how-to” teaching videos that address two standard teaching pieces in the piano repertoire. One will be at the elementary level and one at the intermediate level.

* Present a 10-15 minute instructional teaching video per assigned piece. Your teaching must demonstrate tips and solutions for technical, rhythmical, and musical challenges that your chosen piece may pose to students.
* In your video, you are need to :
  + Introduce the title/composer/date of chosen piece and perform the piece in its entirety at the start of the video
  + Offer your teaching tips in a clear, concise, and engaging manner through demonstration/discussion. Professionalism is important and quality of playing very important.
  + Audience: future students.

**Advanced Repertoire Building Block Plan Due: Friday, 12/01/17 by 11:59 pm in D2L dropbox**

Choose, from a given list, a standard piece from the advanced repertoire. Pretend you have a mid-intermediate level student who wants to play an advanced level piece but isn’t quite ready. Find at least 5 different preparatory pieces from the intermediate to late-intermediate level that would be “building blocks” to prepare your student for the “big” advanced piece they ultimately want to play. Think about texture, expression, technique, and rhythmic complexities that are called upon in the advanced piece and plan your “prep” pieces accordingly. Provide a brief description for each “prep” piece and discuss why/how it is a good building block piece for the ultimate advanced piece.

**Suzuki Lesson Observation Reports Due: Friday, 12/15/17 by 11:59 pm in D2L dropbox**

Observe 3 Suzuki lessons: Two = piano lessons (of different levels); One = non-piano Suzuki lesson such as violin

You may observe teachers at the UWSP Aber Center or Suzuki teachers in the Wausau area. A teacher list with contact info will be provided. A prescribed form will be given to guide your observations.

## GRADING

The following percentages will be given when averaging the total semester grade:

Article/video reflections 10%

Suzuki Lesson Observation Reports 15%

Piano Method Comparative Study 25%

Pedagogical Instruction Videos 25%

Advanced Rep Building Block Plan 25%