Casper College Course Syllabus  
MUSC 2395-01: Piano Proficiency Exam  
Spring 2016  
Lecture hours: 0  
Laboratory hours: 0  
Credits: 0  
Class day and time: TDB (The exam will be given during Finals Week)  
Instructor: Jennifer Cowell-DePaolo  
Office: Music building 211  
Phone: 268.2531  
E-mail: jcowell@caspercollege.edu  
Office hours: posted on door of MU 211  
Other Contact Information: Please e-mail me or call my office. These two means of communication are my preferred method of contact. If you happen to have other contact information for me, please know that they are not official Casper College lines of communication, including Facebook messaging! I will return your call or email within 24 hours.  

Course Description: The Piano Proficiency Examination is a graduation requirement for all seeking the Associate of Arts or the Associate of Fine Arts degree in music. Students enrolled in Keyboard (MUSC 1300, 1301, 2302, and 2303) achieving a minimum of a “B” grade each semester shall not be required to take the exam.  

State of Prerequisites: Music majors may enroll and take the exam at any time during their residency at Casper College.  

Goal: The exam verifies proficient keyboard reading, technical and music performance skills, and realizes theoretical concepts at the keyboard.  

Outcomes: Students will perform from memory all major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios with traditional fingering, dominant seventh and diminished seventh arpeggios, construct seventh chords, prepare chord progressions in several keys; voice majors read two or more voices from an open choral score, instrumental majors transpose a single melodic line; all students prepare two harmonizations using contrasting stylistic accompaniment patterns, prepare a piano accompaniment, and prepare a chorale-style patriotic song.  

Methodology:  
1. The exam is administered in one 30-minute block, scheduled at a mutually convenient day and time. The student will not be allowed to exceed the time allotted.  
2. Should the student fail a small portion of the exam, he or she will be permitted to re-take that portion to ensure proficiency in any weak areas. Only one re-take will be allowed.  
3. Should the student fail the majority of the exam, the student will not be permitted to re-take the exam until there is evidence of further keyboard study (e.g., enrollment in Applied Piano [MUSC 1073], or Keyboard classes).  

Evaluation Criteria:
Each concept (see Exam Content below) within the examination is judged pass or fail. A record sheet outlining all aspects of the exam will be completed for each student. An overall passing score of 90% must be achieved to successfully pass the exam.

**Suggested Text (optional):**

**Last date to change to audit status or to withdraw with a W grade:** consult current catalog

**Student rights and responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Exam content:** The student must be proficient with the following concepts:

**PIANO PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS (FOR NON-PIANO MAJORS)**
Revised June, 2005

1. Major Scales, hands together, 2 octaves, 8\textsuperscript{th} notes, mm=60
2. Major Arpeggios, hands together, 2 octaves, 8\textsuperscript{th} notes mm=60
3. Harmonic minor scales, hands together, 2 octaves, 8\textsuperscript{th} notes, mm=60
4. Minor Arpeggios, hands together, 2 octaves, 8\textsuperscript{th} notes, mm=60
5. Dominant Seventh and Diminished Seventh Chord Arpeggios, hands together, 4 octaves, 8\textsuperscript{th} notes, mm=60
6. Sight read a homophonic composition
   a. voice majors=play 2-3 voices of an open vocal score
   b. instrumental=transposition of a single melodic line
7. Prepare two harmonizations with pianistic accompaniment (no block chords)
8. Prepare accompaniment (instrumental or vocal)
9. Prepare a patriotic chorale-style song (America, Star Spangled Banner, America the Beautiful, Happy Birthday, etc.)
10. Chord Progressions (if not accomplished in class: First semester=CP #5; Second Semester=# 7; Third semester=CP #16; Fourth semester=17-26)

PIANO PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS for PIANO MAJORS
Revised June, 2005

1. Major Scales, hands together, 4 octaves, 16th notes, mm=60
2. Major Arpeggios, hands together, 4 octaves, 8th notes mm=80
3. Harmonic minor scales, hands together, 4 octaves, 16th notes, mm=60
4. Minor Arpeggios, hands together, 4 octaves, 8th notes, mm=80
5. Dominant Seventh and Diminished Seventh Chord Arpeggios, hands together, 4 octaves, 8th notes, mm=60
6. Sight read a homophonic composition
   a. play 2-3 voices of an open vocal score
   b. transposition of a single melodic line
7. Prepare two harmonizations with pianistic accompaniment (no block chords)
8. Sight read accompaniment (instrumental or vocal)
9. Prepare patriotic songs (America, Star Spangled Banner, America the Beautiful, Happy Birthday, etc.)
10. Chord Progressions (if not accomplished in class: First semester=CP #5; Second Semester=# 7; Third semester=CP #16; Fourth semester=17-26)