



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. MUSC 1144 Practical Piano and Digital Music Skills

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will learn basic keyboard skills, receive an introduction to the fundamental building blocks of music, and then apply those to create music using a Digital Audio Workstation. This course is designed for the student who has little or no training in piano playing and music reading. It will also include instruction in the areas of composition and improvisation.

(2 Cr – 2 lect, 0 lab)

C. *Core Theme: Critical Thinking

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Fundamentals of music reading
 - Rhythm
 - Simple meter signatures
 - Note and rest values in simple meters
 - Tempo
 - Pitch
 - Written notation
 - Treble and bass clefs
 - Ledger lines
 - Common accidentals
 - Harmony
 - Intervals
 - Triads
 - introduction to harmonization
 - 3-note accompaniment: I, IV, V or V⁷
 - Melody
 - Basics of melodic construction

- Introduction to musical forms/song structures
- Piano keyboard orientation
 - White and black key names
 - Hand positions
 - 5-finger, Middle C, Pentatonic and/or other common beginning positions
- Technique
 - Healthy and efficient body alignment
 - Legato and staccato
 - Scale fingerings, as appropriate
- Aural skills
 - Aural identification and playback
 - Simple rhythms
 - Simple pitch/melody patterns
- Digital Audio Workstation
 - Operation
 - creating and editing projects
 - using and manipulating pre-made loops
 - recording and altering user-created MIDI tracks
 - importing and exporting files

F. GOAL TYPE, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

<u>GOAL TYPE</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>OUTCOMES</u>
<u>*Critical Thinking</u>	Students will be able to imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.	The student will successfully <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. experiment and assess the musical product created through manipulating one or more musical elements. 2. demonstrate competency in using appropriate musical and technological skills to create music that satisfies its intended purpose.
<u>CS</u>	demonstrate basic two-hand keyboard skills.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. perform simple piano music from printed scores using efficient fingerings and technique. 2. accurately demonstrate I-IV-V(7) chords. 3. compose and/or improvise music via keyboard.
<u>CS</u>	use a Digital Audio Workstation in the creation of music.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. create, edit, and export projects consisting of self-created and pre-made music tracks.
<u>CS</u>	employ knowledge of music fundamentals to both create and perform music.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify and play pitches from the bass and treble clefs. 2. accurately perform simple rhythms and melodies on the keyboard. 3. demonstrate the ability to create well-structured melody with 3-chord harmonization.

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

Students choosing to take this class remotely must have regular access to the following:

- MIDI keyboard with working connections
 - Note: some small MIDI keyboards are available for check-out from Riverland, but will not work for many of the assignments and activities).
- laptop or desktop with Garage Band or other Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) capable of fulfilling assignment criteria.
 - Note: DAW apps on tablets will not have the needed features for this course.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION:

Course Code D/Class Maximum 30; Letter Grade

Revision date:

AASC Approval date: 04/15/25

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. Every course in the Riverland Community College curriculum shall meet outcomes from one of these themes.

**These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines. Riverland's MnTC courses also shall meet outcomes from a Discipline Area.

NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum "10 Goal Areas of Emphasis" are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.

*Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking (CT)	2
Human Diversity (HD)	7A, 7B, 7A/B
Global Perspective (GP)	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	9
People and the Environment (PE)	10

**Riverland Community College Discipline Areas	MnTC Goal Number
Communication (CM)	1
Natural Sciences (NS)	3
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)	4
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)	5
Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)	6

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