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Action-Date: App 12/12/95

Senate App 2/6/96

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

I. CONTACT

Contact Person Calvin Weber Phone 357 -2391
Department Music

II. PROPOSAL TYPE (Check All Appropriate Lines)

COURSE Piano Accompanying
Suggested 20 character title
 New Course* MU 137 Piano Accompanying
Course Number and Full Title
 Course Revision _____
Course Number and Full Title
 Liberal Studies Approval + _____
for new or existing course Course Number and Full Title
 Course Deletion _____
Course Number and Full Title
 Number and/or Title Change _____
Old Number and/or Full Old Title
_____ New Number and/or Full New Title
 Course or Catalog Description Change _____
Course Number and Full Title

PROGRAM: Major Minor Track
 New Program* _____
Program Name
 Program Revision* _____
Program Name
 Program Deletion* _____
Program Name
 Title Change _____
Old Program Name
_____ New Program Name

III. Approvals (signatures and date)

[Signature] 9/6/95 Calvin Weber 9/6/95
Department Curriculum Committee Department Chair
[Signature] _____
College Curriculum Committee College Dean

+ Director of Liberal Studies (where applicable) *Provost (where applicable)

Section A: Details of the Course

- A1 How does this course fit into the programs of the department? For what students is the course designed? (majors, students in other majors, liberal studies).

This course in Piano Accompanying is designed for students who are music majors and whose major performance area is piano. Pending their approval by a designated member of the piano faculty, who certifies that they have the necessary technical and sight reading skills to succeed in this endeavor, a student may register for MU 137, Piano Accompanying as an ensemble course.

- A2 Does this course require changes in the content of existing courses or requirements for a program? If catalog descriptions of other course of department programs must be changed as a result of the adoption of this course, please submit as separate proposals all other changes in courses and/or program requirements.

No

- A3 Has this course ever been offered at IUP on a trial basis (e.g. as a special topic)? If so, explain the details of the offering.

Yes. The course has been offered previously using a Special Topics number.

- A4 Is this course to be a dual-level course? If so, what is the approval status at the graduate level?

No. The course is an undergraduate level course.

- A5 If this course may be taken for variable credit, what criteria will be used to relate the credits to the learning experience to each student? Who will make this determination and by what procedures?

The course will be offered for variable credit. Either 0 credit or 1 credit. This policy is consistent with all Department of Music ensembles. Since students must take up to seven credits of ensemble toward graduation, but since students are required to take at least two ensembles each semester, of necessity, they will schedule certain ensemble courses for zero credit.

- A6 Do other higher education institutions currently offer this course? If so, please list examples.

Yes. Virtually all member institutions of the National Association of Schools of Music provide an opportunity for such a course.

- A7 Is the content, or are the skills, of the proposed course recommended or required by professional society, accrediting authority, law or other external agency? If so, please provide documentation. Explain why this content or these skills cannot be incorporated into an existing course.

Yes. The National Association of Schools of Music lists this course among its standards and guidelines. Although Piano Accompanying may be included in applied music study of piano, this course will provide the opportunity for piano majors to receive ensemble credit for their work.

Section B: Interdisciplinary Implications

B1 Will this course be taught by one instructor or will there be team teaching? If the latter, explain the teaching plan and its rationale.

One instructor from the piano faculty will be designated each semester to monitor student enrollment in this course and their successful completion of the requirements.

B2 What is the relationship between the content of this course and the content of courses offered by other departments? Summarize your discussions (with other departments) concerning the proposed changes and indicate how any conflicts have been resolved. Please attach relevant memoranda from these departments which clarify their attitudes toward the proposed changes(s).

There is no relationship between this course and the content of courses offered by other departments.

B3 Will seats in this course be made available to students in the School of Continuing Education?

Probably not unless the student in Continuing Education is a highly qualified pianist.

Section C: Implementation

C1 Are faculty resources adequate? If you are not requesting or have not been authorized to hire additional faculty, demonstrate how course will fit into the schedules of current faculty. What will be taught less frequently or in fewer sections to make this possible?

Faculty resources appear to be adequate.

C2 What other resources will be needed to teach this course and how adequate are the current resources? If not adequate, what plans exist for achieving adequacy? Reply in terms of the following:

- *Space
- *Equipment
- *Laboratory Supplies and other Consumable Goods
- *Library-Materials
- *Travel Funds

The faculty member responsible for monitoring and coaching piano accompanists would probably receive one laboratory credit hour on his/her teaching load, resulting in a semester load of 0.67. No resources other than those already available will be required to offer the course.

C3 Are any of the resources for this course funded by a grant? If so, what provisions have been made to continue support for this course once the grant has expired? (Attach letters of support from Dean, Provost, etc.)

No

- C4 How frequently do you expect this course to be offered? Is this course particularly designed for or restricted to certain seasonal semesters?
Fall and spring semesters.
- C5 How many sections of this course do you anticipate offering in any single semester?
One section each semester.
- C6 How many students do you plan to accommodate in a section of this course? Is this planned number limited by the availability of any resources? Explain.
Up to eight students each semester could be enrolled in this course.
- C7 Does any professional society recommend enrollment limits or parameters for a course of this nature? If they do, please quote from the appropriate documents.

Enrollment limits are not specified by the National Association of Schools of Music, our accrediting agency.

Section D: Miscellaneous

Students majoring in instrumental or vocal performance, as part of their ongoing study, will, of necessity, prepare and perform solo literature for their respective media of performance. It is quite frequently the case that this solo literature requires piano accompaniment in order for the performance to be complete. The students in voice lessons also should have an accompanist available to perform the accompaniment part while they sing the solo line. Pianists who possess the necessary technical skills and sight reading ability, will serve to enhance their own professional growth and eventual employability. The course would be mutually beneficial to those students who require accompanists to perform with them as well as to the accompanists, themselves, as they grow in their skills in this area.

SYLLABUS OF RECORD
Music 137
Piano Accompanying

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I. Catalog Description - MU 137 Piano Accompanying 1 or 0 credits

Piano accompanying may be scheduled by qualified pianists from the Department of Music in partial fulfillment of ensemble requirements. The course may be repeated for credit. Pianists registered for this course will provide accompaniments for Department of Music students in solo vocal or instrumental performances in area and departmental recitals and/or in voice and instrumental lessons. Registration for the course must be approved by a designated Department of Music faculty member from the piano area.

II. Course Objectives

Students enrolled in MU 137, Piano Accompanying, will:

- a. Demonstrate skill in providing accompaniment for solo or ensemble vocal and/or instrumental performances.
- b. Learn the special techniques required in providing piano accompaniments in musical performance.
- c. Be exposed to a wide range of musical literature composed for instruments and voice.

III. Detailed Course Outline

Students who have been approved as qualified by a designated Department of Music faculty member from the piano area will be assigned to work with students in the preparation of solo or ensemble vocal and instrumental literature. Students will make themselves available for rehearsal at mutually convenient times and be prepared to present performances in area or departmental recitals as well as in other performance settings. The number of such assignments each semester will be determined by the number of public performances involved as well as the length and complexity of the accompaniment literature to be learned.

IV. Evaluation Methods

Applied music teachers whose students are served by an accompanist will report in writing at the end of the semester with regard to the quality of performance provided by each accompanist. This written report will be submitted to the designated Department of Music faculty member from the piano area who is responsible for monitoring accompanists.

V. Required Textbook(s), Supplemental Books and Readings.

None

VI. Special Resource Requirements.

None


VII. Bibliography

None

Date: October 13, 1995

Subject: Responses to Your Questions Concerning New Course -
MU 137 Piano Accompanying

To: Charles Cullum
Screening Committee of the University-Wide
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

From: Calvin W. Weber, Chairperson
Department of Music 

B1 The instructor who "monitors" the course -- what exactly is the nature of the work that the instructor will do? What does "monitor" mean? Is that different from instruction?

In this instance, the term "monitor" refers to the fact that the instructor will maintain a list of students who qualify for registration for the course that (i.e. have the necessary skills to provide effective piano accompaniments) and verify that these students have accompanying assignments with Department of Music students. This will involve their preparing and performing piano accompaniments in voice lessons or for instrumental performances in area and/or departmental recitals. Monitoring also refers to the fact that the instructor will see to it that each student registered as a piano accompanist will not have an undue burden of assignments in this area and, on the other hand, will have sufficient number of accompanying assignments to warrant credit for the course. An arbitrary number of minimum and maximum assignments would be established.

In the "Evaluation Methods" section of the syllabus, there is mention of reports from applied music teachers being involved with evaluation. Does that mean that these applied music teachers are actually a kind of team with the instructor/monitor and so this course is team taught?

A prepared form is issued to each applied music teacher for whose students the accompanist will perform. The applied music teacher will then indicate on the form that the student accompanist has or has not met his/her assignments and commitments in an appropriate manner and the degree to which the task of accompanying was performed satisfactorily.

C1 The response uses the term "appear," which is vague. Can you make a more definitive statement?

Faculty resources to monitor piano accompanying from within the current piano faculty are adequate. If the faculty member monitoring the piano accompanists is given a teaching load credit of 0.67 per semester, it would be equivalent to two half hour piano lessons over the entire semester which, in turn, would mean that the piano faculty member charged with the responsibility of monitoring accompanists would teach two less piano students in that given semester.

C2 The response is inadequate. The resource categories need to be addressed specifically, i.e., space, equipment, etc.

Space: No additional space needed beyond the existing studios and practice rooms. Equipment: No additional equipment needed beyond existing pianos. NOTE: The Department of Music currently is responsible for 77 pianos in various buildings on campus. Laboratory supplies and other consumable goods: No additional supplies are required. The accompanist merely uses music either owned by the student or faculty member or available from the Music Library. Library materials: No additional materials are needed. Travel Funds: No travel funds are needed.

On the syllabus "Qualified pianists" -- Shouldn't this be listed as a prerequisite, something like "Faculty approval based on skill"?

This would be taken care of as in the registration list of courses under prerequisites listing "permission required".

Students are admitted to all Department of Music ensembles orchestras, bands, choruses, etc., on the basis of a performing audition. A pianist admitted to the course Piano Accompanying would simply follow the same procedure and demonstrate his/her skills as a pianist and an accompanist in order to be admitted to the course. The term that you suggest, "Faculty approval based on skill" would certainly be appropriate.

I Ib "Learn special techniques" -- Should be more specific

Techniques involved in piano accompanying are understood by most musicians and involves the pianist performing as a member of an ensemble i.e., developing sensitivity to the tempo changes, dynamic shadings, and so forth of the performer he or she is accompanying. The role of an accompanist also involves performing in a "subsidiary manner", not as the lead soloist.

III More information needed, including number of hours, number of students, etc.

The course in piano accompanying, which is actually an ensemble course, could enroll up to ten students each semester. It could also be specifically stated that students will spend up to five hours a week in accompanying assignments. This would make it consistent with other ensemble requirements in rehearsals, etc. As the syllabus states in the last sentence, "The number of such assignments each semester will be determined by the number of public performances involved as well as the length and complexity of the accompaniment literature to be learned". This factor must be taken into consideration with regard to individual student responsibility.

IV Again, cf. Questionnaire B1 above, the person doing the evaluation is not clear. Shouldn't it be a music faculty person, not "applied music teachers"?

Applied music are in fact music faculty persons. These are members of the Department of Music faculty that teach private lessons in studios to individual students in all instruments and voice. They are referred to synonymously as applied music teachers to differentiate them from those who are teaching in classroom settings, or conducting ensembles.

No textbooks -- why not?

To the best of my knowledge, one does not read textbooks to learn how serve as a piano accompanist. It is a task that is learned by experience with some advice from a teacher as may be appropriate in the beginning stages of this activity. The advice doesn't require separate lessons or meetings with an instructor, but occurs in the accompaniment setting with an applied music teacher (music faculty member) present who advises the accompanist to "play louder at letter A, play softer at letter B, play slower at letter C, play faster at letter D, etc."

Lastly, would you clarify for the screening committee the reasons why a student would take the course for 0 credit? We know that the other ensemble courses are similar; we would just like to have a complete sense of the context.

Performing in vocal or instrumental ensembles, including piano accompanying, is an important laboratory experience for the pre-professional musician teacher. It is in this laboratory that the student hones his/her skills. It is Department of Music policy to require students to be in at least two ensembles each semester that they are enrolled as full time students. Only seven ensemble credits are counted toward graduation in the Music Education Degree Program and

eight credits in the other music degree programs. When the student is on campus for seven or eight semesters, he/she could accumulate from fourteen to sixteen credits in ensemble activity, thus, beyond the number required for the degree program and specified in standards by the National Association of Schools of Music, our accrediting agency. Hence, it was our administrative decision at this university to offer ensembles for zero credit which means that although the student does not earn credit, he/she receives an "S" or "U" grade and it appears on his/her transcript that he/she was a member of an ensemble or, in this instance, served as a piano accompanist.

If further clarification of these issues is required, please contact me so that I could arrange for a meeting with the committee if such would be desirable.