Raritan Valley Community College
Academic Course Outline

MUSC222 - KEYBOARD SKILLS IV

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: MUSC222: Keyboard Skills IV

B. New or modified course: modified

C. Date of Proposal or Revision: Semester: Fall Year: 2014

D. Sponsoring Department: Visual and Performing Arts

E. Semester Credit Hours: 2

F. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 1 Laboratory: 2

G. Prerequisites: Keyboard skills III (MUSC221) or permission of instructor

H. Laboratory Fees: yes

I. VAPA Chair: Dennis Russo, Co-Chair, Performing Arts
(908) 526-1200 x8391, drusso@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: Keyboard Skills III (MUSC221) or permission of the instructor.
This course is a continuation of Keyboard Skills III keyboard playing, music reading, and keyboard techniques. Level 4 techniques and piano repertory will be assigned.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. Keyboard Skills courses are an essential part of the music curriculum, for students pursuing either the musical arts or music education. This course permits students to continue gaining the basic keyboard skills required for serious music study. It is the fourth course in a four-semester sequence in keyboard skills. The course is designed for the student with a limited background in keyboard playing or those whose musical performance area is not the keyboard. Four semesters of keyboard skills training are required for non-keyboard music majors, as an adjunct to their studies in music theory, musicianship, MIDI and/or composition.
Keyboard Skills courses are standard offerings in community colleges and four-year institutions as they are also often desired by students of all age groups who wish to play acoustic or electronic keyboards for personal development and musical enrichment.
B. This class is taught in A-23, our electronic keyboard lab, and is essentially the application of musical skills, knowledge, creativity and performance at the keyboard.

C. Course transferability: Based on evaluations by the [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org) website, this course transfers to most colleges as an Arts elective or a Free elective, or as a keyboard proficiency course for music majors.

**IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

A. Free elective  
B. The course serves as a program requirement for AFA Music.  
C. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); for other colleges and universities, go to the individual college website.

**V. Outline of Course Content**

A. level 4 music fundamentals, notation and ear-training  
B. level 4 technical exercises and sight-reading  
C. modes, other scales (pentatonic, whole-tone, blues)  
D. assymetrical and shifting meters  
E. chord symbols, continuation of melodic harmonization  
F. appropriate solos and ensemble repertory

**VI. General Education Goals and Learning Outcomes**

**A. General Educational Goals**

The student will:  
develop the skills of keyboard playing, enabling further pursuit and engagement in creative expression, personal development and the aesthetic and technical elements of music. (GE-NJ 1, 6, *)

**B. Learning Outcomes**

The student will be able to:  
1. use the keyboard as a tool for the study of music theory, arranging, composition, digital applications and performance.  
2. harmonize melodies, applying chord symbols and accompaniment textures.  
3. perform with accuracy and precision technical exercises and solo and ensemble repertory, as preparation for a 4-year college keyboard placement audition.

(* embedded critical thinking)
VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

A. lecture/demonstrations  
B. group instruction and discussions  
C. ensemble playing  
D. individual instruction

VIII. Papers, Examination, and other Assessment Instruments

A. written examinations – midterm and final – theory and notation  
B. chapter reviews of written theory, terms and concepts  
C. weekly progress on assigned materials  
D. performance examinations

IX. Grade Determinants

A. Examinations: written and performance  
B. Weekly progress and individual effort  
C. Attendance/classroom participation

X. Text and Materials


(Please note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

Supplementary repertory will be supplied by the instructor.

XI. Resources

A. Soundproof music studio/classroom with acoustic piano.
B. Electronic keyboards: Individual student keyboard stations (12) plus the instructor’s demonstration keyboard.
C. Stereo and media systems