

## Piano Technique I, II, III, & IV

**Victoria Alma Castello**

**E-Mail:** [chancelloralm@hotmail.com](mailto:chancelloralm@hotmail.com)

**Course Description:** Piano Technique class is a preparatory piano class, which prepares the student's piano performance skill for the music college auditions. The four general levels of Piano Technique I, II, III, & IV are based on the number of years of training at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts.

**Course Standard:** Students are expected to present accumulative understanding of music theory, technical fluency, refined musicality, and positive self-expression through piano performance.

**Course Outline:** The course follows the benchmarks outlined by the DCPS music curriculum. Students will learn technical fluency through learning scales, cadences, arpeggios, and exercise music. Students will be required to take eight 45-minute lessons once a week to expend their classical repertoire. At the end of each semester, the students will take a piano performance test (jury). At the jury, students must present mature musicianship and musicality through their performances. Jury requirements include five memorized pieces and designated scales, arpeggios, and cadences. Other course requirements include satisfactory performance in monthly piano repertoire classes as well as in student recitals.

**Materials:** Intermediate and advanced piano literature from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and Contemporary styles assigned by the technique teacher, *The Virtuoso Pianist* by Hanon, and *The FJH Classical Scale Book*. Students must also maintain a piano technique notebook (3-ringed binder) containing all handouts received. Students must bring the notebook and all assigned technique and piano literature books to each class.

### **Grading:**

#### **First, Third, and Fourth Advisories:**

Piano literature and Notebook (15%)

Weekly piano lessons\* (60%).

Piano Repertoire Class/Student Recital performances (25%).

#### **Second Advisory:**

Piano literature and Notebook (10%)

Performance Jury (50%)

Weekly piano lessons\* (30%).

Piano Repertoire Class/Student Recital performances (10%).

#### **Final Exam:**

Performance Jury (100%)

*\*The Weekly Piano Lesson grade is an accumulative average grade of eight lessons throughout the advisory.*

### **Grading Scale**

The following grading scale will be used in evaluating and reporting each student's progress:

A	=93-100
A-	=90-92
B+	=87-89
B	=83-86
B-	=80-82
C+	=77-79
C	=73-76
C-	=70-72
D+	=67-69
D	=64-66
F	=63 and below

---

*(Detach along dotted line)*

I have received and read the Piano Technique course syllabus. I agree to meet all course requirements as listed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Please return this signed document to the teacher.***