**Piano 3**

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**Course Description**

Piano 3 is the next level of Piano after level 1 or 2. It includes a more in-depth study of theory, developing fluency and technique at the keyboard, and a more mature sense of musical interpretation.

**Required Text**

*Alfred Basic Piano Course: Adult All-in-One Course Level 2.* This method book may be purchased at any music store, at the Hamilton High School Student Store, or online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) Googling the title will also allow you to find a free, downloadable PDF. Each student must have his/her own book or electronic version and bring it to class each and every time class meets.

**Required Materials**

In addition to the required text, students must bring the following to class every time that class meets:

* Headphones with adaptor (**earbuds are not ideal and must use an adaptor with an extension**)
* Loose leaf binder with lined paper and section dividers (I suggest Technique, Music Appreciation, Repertoire, Sight-Reading, and Theory)
* Pencil and eraser

**Practicing**

Students are required to practice one hour daily outside of class. Therefore, it is necessary to have a piano or keyboard in the home or close to home for daily access. Piano practice should be done before school or before other homework when the student first arrives home. The mind and body are too tired to practice effectively if the student postpones practice until other homework is done.

**Recital Attendance**

Level 3 students are required to attend at least one piano recital per semester here at Hamilton High School. Extra credit will be given for turning in a typewritten critique within a week of the recital. If students are unable to attend one of the piano recitals here at Hamilton High School, they may choose an outside professional piano recital (recital of a private piano teacher’s studio does not count), and in this case a typewritten critique is required for credit. No credit is given for attending an outside professional piano recital if a critique, along with proof of attendance, is not submitted,

**Tardy Policy**

3 unexcused tardies= Unsatisfactory mark on the next report card.

**Classroom Behavior and Expectations**

* **Daily attendance** is critical to learning piano. Students with excused absences will be allowed to make up work as per LAUSD policy; however, consistent attendance is key to success in music. Participation points are lost with excessive absences.
* It is **IMPERATIVE** that students **participate in guided practice during class** by listening to instructions, giving it their full attention, and playing along at the piano. Students who do not actively participate in class will lose participation points!
* The school’s progressive discipline policy will be enforced.
* Be respectful at all times to all people.
* **No food or drinks at your seat**.
* Respect the instruments. No pounding on the keys or playing glissando. Wash or cleanse your hands before class. Keep pianos clean and free of marks, gum, and trash. **Do not use hand lotion in this class.**
* **Fingernails must be kept short and trimmed**. Points are deducted for incorrect hand position!
* There will be no talking or playing instruments aloud without direct instruction to do so.
* **Cell phones, tablets, and laptops are OK as long as it is related to the lesson.**
* At the end of class, remain in your seat until dismissed. Turn off piano, close the lid, and push in bench before leaving the classroom.
* Have your own materials. Bring all materials to class each and every time you come to class.
* Forgotten headphones or adaptors may be rented from Piano Club for a fee of 25 cents.
* You may use the restroom during class time only if it is an emergency and, as per Hamilton High School policy, you are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of each class period.

**Homework and Grading Policies**

Academic grades are based on cumulative point totals determined by class participation, written and performance tests, quizzes, daily class work, recital attendance, extra credit, and projects. When homework is assigned, please write down the due date and complete it accordingly in order to receive full credit.

**Please refer to this course description and talk to me if you have questions/issues/problems with our class.**