



**VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
CHARTING THE COURSE

*Department of Teaching & Learning*  
*Parent/Student Course Information*

***Piano I***  
***(MU 9476)***  
***One Credit Per Year***  
***Grades 9-12***

*Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's counseling department.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This yearlong course is designed for students with limited or no previous piano experience. Students will receive instruction in formal keyboard technique and an exposure to traditional and contemporary piano literature and composers. They will learn and apply basic music theory, including scales, chords, fingering and two-handed playing. Students will learn about the history and origin of piano and will learn a variety of music repertoire, incorporating different styles, skills and techniques. No previous experience is required.

The standards for High School Piano I enable students to begin receiving instruction on piano at any high school grade level. Students demonstrate proper care of the instrument and become familiar with its history and technology, including different types of pianos. They demonstrate basic positions, such as hands separately and hands together. Students read and perform music of varying styles and levels of difficulty. They describe, respond to, interpret and evaluate works of music, as well as create basic variations of simple melodies. They also investigate career options in music. In this course, students will use a standard method book and supplemental materials.

**PREREQUISITE**

None

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Piano II

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

None

**VIRGINIA BEACH STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES  
FOR BEGINNING PIANO I**

**MUSIC THEORY/LITERACY**

- CPI.1 The student will echo, read, and notate music, including
1. Identifying, defining, and using basic standard notation for pitch, rhythm, meter, articulation, dynamics, and other elements of music;
  2. Identify basic musical terms;
  3. Develop listening and rhythm skills;
  4. Learning key signatures.
- CPI.2 The student will echo, read, and perform rhythms and rhythmic patterns, including whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, dotted half notes, dotted quarter notes, corresponding rests, and syncopations.
- CPI.3 The student will identify, read, and perform music in simple meters ( $\frac{2}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{4}$ , C,  $\frac{6}{8}$ ).
- CPI.4 The student will read, analyze, notate, and perform scales and chords, including
1. Proper posture and hand position;
  2. With a focus on the outer fingers of the hand 2-3-4, then finger 1&5, using blocked 5<sup>ths</sup>;
  3. Play C, G, D, A, E, B and F major scales;
  4. 5 finger patterns, tonic triads in root position;
  5. Exercises in basic level articulation.
- CPI.5 The student will identify and perform music written in binary and theme-and-variations forms.
- CPI.6 The student will use music composition as a means of expression by
1. Composing a four-measure rhythmic-melodic variation; and
  2. Notating the composition in standard notation, using contemporary technology.
- CPI.7 The student will define and apply music terminology found in the music literature being studied.

**PERFORMANCE**

- CPI.8 The student will demonstrate preparatory instrumental basics and playing procedures, including
1. Identification of the parts of the instrument;
  2. Keyboard topography and orientation;
  3. Proper posture and hand position;
  4. Coordination between hands
- CPI.9 The student will demonstrate proper piano techniques, including
1. Production of clear tone;
  2. Proper posture, to include; bench height, distance from the keyboard, placement of feet; knees, shoulders;
  3. Movement, relaxation and power.
- CPI.10 The student will perform exercises in the grand staff
1. Hands alone;
  2. Hands together;
  3. Maintaining a steady beat at various tempos in the music literature being studied.

- CPI.11 The student will read and interpret standard music notation while performing music of varying styles and levels of difficulty.
- CPI.12 The student will begin to use articulations, dynamic contrasts, and phrasing as means of expression, including legato, staccato, and ascending and descending slurs.
- CPI.13 The student will demonstrate musicianship and personal engagement by
1. Identifying the characteristic sound of the piano;
  2. Monitoring individual practice through the use of practice records or journals that identify specific musical goals;
  3. Participating in school recitals; and
  4. Describing and demonstrating rehearsal and concert etiquette as a performer (e.g., using critical aural skills, following conducting gestures, maintaining attention in rest position).
- CPI.14 The student will sight-read music at the basic level.

## **MUSIC HISTORY AND CULTURAL CONTEXT**

- CPI.15 The student will explore historical and cultural aspects of music by
1. Describing the cultures, musical styles, composers, and historical periods associated with the music literature being studied;
  2. Describing ways in which culture and technology influence the development of instruments, instrumental music, and instrumental music styles;
  3. Describing the relationship of instrumental music to the other fine arts and other fields of knowledge;
  4. Describing career options in music;
  5. Describing ethical standards as applied to the use of social media and copyrighted materials; and
  6. Demonstrating concert etiquette as an active listener.

## **ANALYSIS, EVALUATION, AND CRITIQUE**

- CPI.16 The student will analyze and evaluate music by
1. Describing the importance of composers' use of style, cultural influences, and historical context for the interpretation of works of music;
  2. Describing and interpreting works of music, using inquiry skills and music terminology;
  3. Describing accepted criteria used for evaluating works of music;
  4. Describing performances of music, using music terminology; and
  5. Describing accepted criteria used for critiquing musical performances of self and others.

## **AESTHETICS**

- CPI.17 The student will investigate aesthetic concepts related to music by
1. Proposing a definition of *music* and supporting that definition;
  2. Identifying reasons for preferences among works of music, using music terminology;
  3. Identifying ways in which music evokes sensory, emotional, and intellectual responses, including ways in which music can be persuasive;
  4. Describing aesthetic criteria used for determining the quality of a work of music or importance of a musical style; and  
Explaining the value of musical performance to the school community.

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For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

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*4-4, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-33, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 2-33.1, 4-4.1, 4-4.2,*

*4-4.3, 4-6.1, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials and extracurricular activities.*

*To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.*

*Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write the Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070(voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email him at [John.Brewington@vbschools.com](mailto:John.Brewington@vbschools.com).*

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