

Individual Learning Contract

The Evergreen State College

Fuerst	Heather	A00294804	Junior
Student Last Name	Student First Name	Student ID	Class Standing
Winter 2013	fuehea17@evergreen.edu	8	P is for Piano
Term	Email	Credits	Contract Title

Sponsor(s)		
Sarah Williams	8676561	williasa@evergreen.edu
Name	Telephone	Email

Learning Objectives	Activities that will help me to attain this objective	What my sponsor will evaluate
I want to see, hear and feel what my piano has to teach me.	<p>Reading Buhner - to deepen the practice of being aware of anything my piano has to say to me</p> <p>Sitting with my piano - discover what my eyes can teach me about the instrument</p> <p>Look up where it came from - find the maker, what country? How long ago?</p> <p>Take the piano apart so I can see what it looks like on the inside</p> <p>Sing into the piano and listen for notes with resonance</p> <p>Lay underneath the piano and absorb whatever lessons there are to learn – any gum under there? Any writing? How do the pedals connect to the hammers?</p> <p>journal and write poetry about my experiences,</p>	I will complete the specified assignments for my field study designated by the Program Moodle
<p>I want to learn more about how music works</p> <p>how the black squiggles and dots on paper transform in my mind and body to become vibrations in the air</p> <p>and how notes blend together and overlap to create a song - do different cultures have different scales they use that sound beautiful to them?</p>	<p>Reading and research in books on written music and the brain. And drawing material from Dehaene.</p> <p>Books: Musicophilia by Oliver Sacks, The Hand by Frank Wilson, Vision and Resonance by John Hollander</p> <p>Reading on how music affects the brain and body (and maybe water as well?)</p> <p>Book: The Seventh Dragon by Anita Sullivan</p> <p>Reading some music theory to learn more about what sounds and scales are most common in this culture</p>	I will complete the specified assignments for my field study designated by the Program Moodle

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	<p>Book: Sound Structure in Music by Robert Erickson</p> <p>Reading material on music from different cultures - do they use different scales? are there a series of notes that define songs from certain lineages?</p> <p>Book: The Study of Ethnomusicology by Bruno Nettl</p> <p>Composing music, recording music, acquire proficiencies for recording equipment and cameras.</p>	
<p>I want to learn about some of the mechanics and history of pianos - how does a key strike become a note? what's between the ivory and the strings?</p> <p>how a key pulls a lever, which strikes several strings, making vibrations sound, which blend together with other notes creating a song.</p> <p>Also, what came before pianos? the harpsichord? the harp? the lyre?</p>	<p>Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piano History • Music Theory • Piano Mechanics <p>Books: Sound Structure in Music by Robert Erickson, The Piano: It's Story, from Zither to Grand by David Grover</p> <p>I would also like to interview the woman who was my piano teacher for many years. Fill out a Human Subjects Review.</p>	<p>I will complete the specified assignments for my field study designated by the Program Moodle</p>
<p>I want to discover what a variety of pianos in different spaces have to teach. I want to feel the way they resonate in the spaces where they live, because of the particular wood and strings and hammers they were created with, in front of whatever audience is present, and I want to feel the way my own body resonates with each piano, in silence and sound.</p>	<p>Play the piano and listen for peculiar notes – sticky, resonant, out of tune</p> <p>Read: Vision and Resonance by John Hollander</p> <p>Find as many pianos as possible, play them and write poetry about playing them – how I feel, the space, the audience, the resonance.</p> <p>During this part of my contract, I want to be paying particular attention to how performance feels to me, if fear or excitement come up, my thoughts when I make mistakes, or when I don't make mistakes...</p>	<p>I will complete the specified assignments for my field study designated by the Program Moodle</p>

Related Experience

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I started taking piano lessons 15 years ago. Though I dreaded playing for anyone then - including my parents, my piano teacher, and especially groups of people for the recitals - over the past few years I've started to play for people. There was one song in particular that I absolutely fell in love with. This song, for me, is an inseparable part of playing piano, and often inspires the music I write.

In the lessons I took, I had what I believe is called 'classical training' - I learned scales, how to read music, and some music theory.

Evergreen Faculty I have worked with

Student Collaborators

Contract Description

My primary learning objective is to learn as much from the piano as possible. I want to sit with pianos, play them, read about music theory, and piano history and mechanics. I want to learn more about how reading music works, and which sounds blend together to create a song, or not. I want to play as many pianos as possible during my field study, and discover within myself more about what performance feels like to me, and more about the ways I like to compose music.

Sponsor and Field Supervisor Support

email contact during the field study?

Evaluation of Work

Student Conditions

No Study Abroad: By signing this contract I understand that I cannot earn any credit for work in this contract that is developed while I am traveling outside of the United States.

No Human Subjects Review: I commit to one of the following: 1) I have listed completing the Human Subjects Review Application as an assignment included in my Learning Activities, or 2) I will NOT be interviewing anyone or using information given to me for this contract by anyone that may put him/her at risk in this contract and that if it is realized by the College that I do use this type of information in my contract, I will not get credit for the work.

General Condition of Contract: I understand that I will be charged a late fee if the Academic Deans Office (or Graduate Director/Assistant Director for Graduate Students) receives my contract after 5 p.m. Friday of Week One for the quarter for which I am registering.

Student Signature:

Approved online by
Signature

Date

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Approval Signatures Needed	
Before your contract will be registered, you will need to get the approval signatures listed below. If your sponsor approves your contract online, their email will appear as the online approval on the signature line.	
Contract Sponsor Signature:	Approved online by
	Signature _____ Date _____
Academic Dean Signature:	Approved online by
	Signature _____ Date _____