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University of Illinois  
School of Music  

Music 172  
Group Piano I for music majors

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION INFORMATION

To receive proficiency credit for Music 172, the student must be able to pass a comprehensive keyboard examination showing they have mastered all areas of the course.

Procedures:

1. Obtain current text for the course (see required materials below).
2. Thoroughly prepare and practice all areas outlined on this sheet. Give special attention to the harmonization and sight-reading sections.
3. If you feel you are fluent with all areas of this examination and with approval of your course instructor, schedule an appointment with Dr. Tsitsaros (333-3188, ctsitsar@illinois.edu) or Dr. Alexander (244-3334, craelsexan@illinois.edu).
4. **Remain in your current assigned course and section actively participating and attending the class until the examination is actually passed. Do not assume proficiency credit will be granted.**

Required Materials (available at the University of Illinois Bookstore)


**Harmonization**

1. Chord progression I-IV6/4-I-V6/5-I, as seen on the bottom of page 180, all major keys. Use correct fingerings and damper pedal for *legato* connection.

**Transposition**

Transpose as indicated examples 1-4 on pages 146-147.

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Updated fall semester 2014
**Sight-reading**
Sight-read examples at the level of those on pages 148-149.

**Key Signatures and Chord Patterns**
1. Identify all major key signatures (page 78).
2. Build all minor triads and their inversions (bottom of page 172).
3. Be able to play the tonic and dominant triads in any major key (page 89).

**Technique**
1. Play all major and minor five-finger patterns (bottom of page 125).
2. Build for one octave any major or harmonic minor scale (see Appendix B).
3. With correct fingering, play major scales and arpeggios hands together, two octaves in eighth notes (quarter note = 80). Keys of C, D, E, F, G, A, B, D-Flat (see Appendix B as well as the fingering chart on page 215).

**Piano Ensemble and Accompanying**
Play the student parts on pages 150-151 and 161.

**Solo Repertoire**
Demonstrate proper use of the damper pedal by playing Crosses on page 170. Fluently perform compositions with sixteenth note rhythms on pages 166-167.

Updated fall semester 2014
University of Illinois
School of Music

Music 173
Group Piano II for music majors

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION INFORMATION

To receive proficiency credit for Music 173, the student must be able to pass a comprehensive keyboard examination showing mastery of all areas taught during the course.

Procedures:

1. Obtain current text for the course.
2. Thoroughly prepare and practice all areas outlined on this sheet. Give special attention to the harmonization and sight-reading sections.
3. If you feel you are fluent with all areas of this examination, schedule an appointment with Dr. Tsitsaros (333-3188, ctsitsar@illinois.edu) or Dr. Alexander (244-3334, cralexan@illinois.edu).
4. Remain in your current assigned course actively attending class and fully participating in the course until the examination is actually passed. Do not assume proficiency credit will be granted.

Required Materials (available at the University of Illinois Bookstore)

Harmonization
Harmonize the examples on pages 311-312.

Transposition
1. Transpose as indicated examples on pages 326-327 as indicated.
2. Build any mode and transpose as asked (page 318).
3. Build each whole tone scale (228).
4. Build the C blues scale and transpose to F (page 229).

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Revised fall term 2014
Sight-reading

Sight-read examples at the level of those on pages 275-279.

Key Signatures and Chord Patterns

1. Build major, augmented, minor, and diminished triads on any given tone (page 227).
2. Identify all major and minor key signatures (267).
3. Transpose to all major keys the following chord patterns:
   - I-vi-IV-ii-I6/4-V7-I (page 218)
   - I-IV-V7/V-V7-I (page 261)

Improvisation

Using damper pedal, improvise using the pentatonic scale (page 228).

Technique

1. Construct each form of the minor scale on any note given (page 267).
2. Play all major scales and arpeggios, hands together, two octaves, in a fluent tempo and with correct fingering (see Appendix B, pages 361-366).
3. Play the chromatic scale in contrary motion with correct fingering (page 303).

Piano Ensemble Repertoire and Accompanying Selections

Fluently perform the student parts on pages 334-335 and 290-291.

Solo Repertoire

Fluently perform the piano compositions from pages 346-353.
Music 174
Group Piano III for music majors

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION INFORMATION

To receive proficiency credit for Music 174 the student must be able to pass a comprehensive keyboard examination showing mastery of all areas taught during the course.

Procedures:

1. Obtain current text for the course (available at University of Illinois bookstore).
2. Thoroughly prepare and practice all areas outlined on this sheet. Give special attention to the harmonization and sight-reading sections.
3. If you feel you are fluent with all areas of this examination, schedule an appointment with Dr. Tsitsaros (333-3188, ctsitsar@uiuc.edu) or Dr. Alexander (244-3334, cralexan@uiuc.edu).
4. Remain in your current assigned course actively attending class and fully participating in the course until the examination is actually passed. Do not assume proficiency credit will be granted.

Required Materials (available at the University of Illinois Bookstore)


Harmonization
Harmonize and transpose (if indicated) the following examples: Pages 130-132.

Transposition
1. Transpose as indicated examples on pages 133-139.
2. Build any form of the minor scale on any note.

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Sight-reading
1. Sight-read examples at the level of those on pages 221-227.
2. Play the vocal parts from the Mendelssohn and Young supplementary vocal score reading textures.

Key Signatures and Chord Patterns
1. Identify any major or minor key signature.
2. Transpose to all major keys the following chord patterns:

   I-iii-IV-I-ii6-I6/4-V7-I (page 43)
   I-IV-V7/V-V7-I (page 43)

3. Identify types of seventh chords and play possible voicings (page 127, top as well as no. 1 and 2).

Improvisation
Improvise melodies over a LH accompaniment as seen on the top of page 123.

Technique
1. Play the Five Finger Study, on page 39, in all major keys.
2. Play all harmonic minor scales, hands together, three octaves, in a fluent tempo (quarter note = 80; see Appendix B).
3. Play all minor arpeggios, hands together, three octaves, in a fluent tempo (see Appendix B).
4. Play with excellent dynamic balance the Study in G Major (page 161).
5. Demonstrate proper damper pedal technique with Brief Ballad by Alec Wilder (page 157).

Piano Ensemble Repertoire and Accompanying Examples
1. Fluently perform examples (either secondo or primo parts) on pages 148-149 and 150-151.
2. Fluently perform the accompaniments on pages 99-101, 140-141, and 142-143.

Solo Repertoire
Fluently perform any piano composition from pages 152-159.

Revised spring term 2014
Music 175: Group Piano IV for music majors

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION INFORMATION
To receive proficiency credit for Music 175, the student must be able to pass a comprehensive keyboard examination showing mastery of all areas taught during the course.

Procedures:

1. Obtain current text for the course (available at University of Illinois Bookstore).
2. Thoroughly prepare and practice all areas outlined on this sheet. Give special attention to the harmonization and sight-reading sections.
3. If you feel you are fluent with all areas of this examination, schedule an appointment with Dr. Tsitsaros (333-3188, ctsitar@uiuc.edu) or Dr. Alexander (244-3334, crolexan@uiuc.edu).
4. Remain in your current assigned course actively attending class and fully participating in the course until the examination is actually passed. Do not assume proficiency credit will be granted.

Required Materials (available at the University of Illinois Bookstore)

Harmonization
Harmonize the musical examples on the following pages: 258-260, 307-310.

Transposition
Transpose as indicated examples on pages 312-317.
Build any form of the minor scale starting on any note requested.

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Revised spring semester 2013
Sight-reading
1. Sight-read examples at the level of those on pages 263-271.
2. Sight-read score examples (see score examples, chapters 5-8).

Key Signatures and Chord Patterns
1. Identify any major or minor key signature.
2. Transpose to selected keys the following chord patterns:
   Modulations to closely related keys and to the dominant key (pages 170-171, numbers 1 and 2).
3. Identify and spell altered dominant chords (page 303).

Improvisation
Improvisate at the level of the examples on page 299 (numbers 1 and 2).

Technique
1. Play all major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios, each hands together, three octaves, hands together (see Appendix B).
2. Play all diminished seventh arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion for three octaves (bottom of page 251).
3. Play an octave chromatic scale in contrary motion with correct fingering (bottom of page 303).
4. Demonstrate proper damper pedal technique with Prelude in C Minor, op. 28, no. 20 by Frédéric Chopin (page 296).
5. Demonstrate an understanding of Baroque ornaments by playing the exercises on pages 194-195.

Piano Ensemble Repertoire and Accompanying Examples
Fluently perform ensemble examples (student part) on pages 236-239, 326-327. Fluently perform the accompaniments (student part) on pages 272-275 and 318-321.

Solo Repertoire

American Song Examples
Fluently perform examples on pages 322-325.

Revised spring semester 2013