

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
School of Music**

**MUS 172  
Group Piano I for music majors**

**PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION INFORMATION**

To receive proficiency credit for MUS 172, the student must be able to pass a comprehensive keyboard examination displaying a good balance between keyboard and theory skills.

**Procedures**

1. Obtain the current text for the course (see below), and thoroughly prepare and practice all areas outlined on this sheet.
2. Sign up for a 10-minute proficiency exam during the exam time (first week of classes in the fall or spring):
  - See the schedule posted on the School of Music Undergraduate Resource Page.
  - Sign up for a time and note the schedule room/building.
3. Students with considerable piano background are strongly encouraged to take the MUS 172 proficiency exam no matter their theory background.
4. All incoming students who opt not to take the proficiency exam need to register for the group piano sequence during their freshman or sophomore year (MUS 172, MUS 173). Students who successfully pass the MUS 172 proficiency exam should register for MUS 173 in the spring semester.

**Required Materials (available at the University of Illinois Bookstore)**

KMI: *Keyboard Musicianship: Piano for Adults (Book I, 11<sup>th</sup> edition)* by Lyke, Caramia, Haydon, and Chioldi. The text can be ordered directly through Stipes Publishing at 217.356.8391 or <http://www.stipes.com>.

**MUS 172 Proficiency Exam Materials**

**(1) Harmonization**

1. Chord progression I-IV6/4-I-V6/5-I, as seen on the bottom of page 112, all major keys.
2. Harmonize examples 1-6 (pages 83-85) and 1-4 (pages 123-124).

**(2) Transposition**

1. Transpose as indicated examples 1-6 on pages 131-133.

**(3) Sight-reading**

1. Sight-read examples at the level of those on pages 100-102.

**(4) Key Signatures and Chord Patterns**

1. Identify all major key signatures (page 74).
2. Be able to play the I-IV64-I-V65-I chord pattern in any major key (bottom of page 82).
3. Be able to play the I-V7-I progression in any key with the voice leading indicated on page 122.

**(5) Technique**

1. Play all major and minor five-finger patterns (bottom of page 115).
2. Build for one octave any major or harmonic minor scale (see *Appendix B*, pages 353-361.)
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 instruction on pages 75-76).

**(6) Piano Ensemble and Accompanying**

1. Play the student part on pages 96-99 and 138-141.

**(7) Solo Repertoire**

1. Demonstrate proper use of the damper pedal by playing *Pedal Study* on page 157.
2. Fluently perform compositions within the repertoire section on pages 146-155.