Towson University – Department of Music

Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

Discipline: CLASSICAL SAXOPHONE

General Information:

- The stated proficiencies below apply to all students taking lessons in the particular discipline.
- Level of difficulty for specific repertoire will be adjusted based upon the student’s degree program.
- These proficiencies are the minimums for a passing grade in the discipline.
- Any student wishing to take 300-level applied lessons must successfully pass an upper division jury demonstrating the proficiencies as articulated below.

Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson

Freshman Level

- Overtones
- Top Tunes for the Saxophone (Rascher)
- Daily Studies for all Saxophones (Kynaston)
- Major scales
- Harmonic minor scales
- Melodic minor scales
- Chromatic scales
- Etudes as assigned – 18 Studies after Berbiguier (Mule), 24 Studies after Ferling (Mule), Selected Studies (Voxman)

- Repertoire as assigned: Sonata #4 (Bach); Concertino (Bozza); Sonata (Creston); Adagio and Allegro (Handel); Sonata (Heiden); Improvisation I, II, III (Noda)
Sophomore Level
- The Intonation Workbook (Kynaston)
- 158 Saxophone Exercises (Rascher)
- Major scale intervals – 3rds and 4ths
- Whole tone scales
- Octatonic scales
- Etudes as assigned – 24 Easy Atonal Etudes (Mule), 53 Etudes – book 1 (Mule), Neuf Etudes Transcendantes (Samyn)
- Repertoire as assigned: A Sonata #4 (Bach); Fantasy (Bedard); Sonata (Eccles); Concerto (Hartley); Quinze Etudes (Koechlin); Ballade (Tomasi)

Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)
- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

Junior Level
- 30 Exercises after Sousman (Mule)
- Major scale diatonic seventh chords
- Harmonic minor scale intervals – 3rds and 4ths
- Augmented triads
- Etudes as assigned – Bach for the Saxophone (Caravan), 28 Etudes – modes de Messiaen (Lacour), Etudes Varies (Mule), Etudes Journaliers (Terschak/Mule)
- Repertoire as assigned: Divertimento (Boutry); Improvisation et Caprice (Bozza); Concerti in Eb (Glazounov); Sonata (Heiden); Parable (Persichetti); Seven Epigrams (Snyder)
- Junior recital (required based upon degree program)

Senior Level
- Saxophone High Tones (Rousseau)
- Major scale intervals – 5ths and 6ths
- Harmonic minor scale intervals – 5ths
- Melodic minor scale intervals – 3rds and 4ths
- Diminished seventh arpeggios
➢ Etudes as assigned – 6 Etudes (Massis), 20 Etudes after Sivori, Rode, Fiorillo, Cappelle – book II (Mule), 53 Etudes – book II (Mule)

➢ Repertoire as assigned: Sonata (Absil); Duo (Hartley); Atoll II (Matsushita), Tableaux de Provence (Maurice); Scaramouche (Milhaud); Mai (Noda); Concerto (Tomasi); Fantasia (Villa-Lobos)

➢ Senior Recital (required based upon degree program)

Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson

Freshman Level

➢ Overtones

➢ Top Tones for the Saxophone (Rascher)

➢ 159 Saxophone Exercises (Rascher)

➢ The Intonation Workbook (Kynaston)

➢ Exercises Transcendantes (Perrin)

➢ Daily Studies (Teal)

➢ Daily Studies for all Saxophones (Kynaston)

➢ All scales, arpeggios and intervals in 1/16th notes

➢ Major scales and arpeggios @120

➢ Major scale intervals – 3rds and 4ths

➢ Harmonic minor scales and arpeggios @100

➢ Harmonic minor scale intervals – 3rds

➢ Melodic minor scales and arpeggios @80

➢ Chromatic scale @100

➢ Whole tone scales @80

➢ Augmented triads @80

➢ Octatonic scales @80

➢ Etudes as assigned - 24 Easy Atonal Etudes (Lacour), 18 Studies after Berbiguier (Mule), 48 Studies after Ferling (Mule); 24 Intermessi (Rascher), Neuf Etudes Transcendantes Šamyn), Selected Studies (Noxman)
➢ Repertoire as assigned: Sonata #4 (Bach); Fantasy (Bedard); A Sonata #4 (Bach); Concertino (Bozza); Sonata (Creton); Sonata (Eccles); Concerti in Eb (Glazounov); Adagio and Allegro (Handel); Sonata (Heiden); Improvisation I, II, III (Noda); Introduction et Danse (Tomasi); An Abstract (Ward)

Sophomore Level
➢ 30 Exercises after Sousman (Mule)
➢ Major scale diatonic seventh chords
➢ Major scales and arpeggios @132
➢ Major scales intervals – 5ths
➢ Harmonic minor scales and intervals @120
➢ Harmonic minor scale intervals – 3rds, 4ths
➢ Melodic minor scales @100
➢ Chromatic scale @ 120
➢ Whole tone scales @ 120
➢ Augmented triads @ 100
➢ Octatonic scales @100
➢ Diminished seventh arpeggios @80
➢ Etudes as assigned – 20 Etudes after Sivori, Rode, Fiorillo, Capelle – book I (Mule), 53 Etudes Book 1 (Mule), Etudes Journaliers (Terschak/Mule)
➢ Repertoire as assigned: Sonata (Absil); Concerto (Badings); Rhapsodie Brettone (Barbier); Divertimento (Boutry); Improvisation et Caprice (Bozza); Rhapsodie pour Saxophone (Debussy); Concerto (Hartley); Quinze Etudes (Koechlin); Quattro Liriche Brevi (Orrtego-Salas); Parable (Persichetti); Seven Epigrams (Snyder); Ballade (Tomasi)

Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)
➢ Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

Junior Level
➢ Saxophone High Tones (Rousseau)
➢ Major scales and intervals @160
➢ Major scale intervals – 6ths and 7ths
➢ Harmonic minor scales and arpeggios @160
- Harmonic minor intervals – 5ths, 6ths
- Melodic minor scales and intervals @132
- Whole tone scales @ Augmented triads @160
- Augmented triads @ 132
- Octatonic scales @120
- Diminished seventh arpeggios @120
- Etudes as assigned – Bach for Saxophone (Caravan), 28 Etudes-modes de Messiaen (Lacour), 6 Etudes (Massis), Etudes Varies (Mule), 20 Etudes after Sivori, Rode, Fiorillo, Capelle – book II (Mule), 53 Etudes – book II (Mule)
- Repertoire as assigned: Concerto (Creston); Divertissement (Dubois); Sonata (Heiden); Piece Concertatante (Lacour); Duo (Hartley); Atoll II (Matsushita); Tableaux de Provence (Maurice); Scaramouche (Milhaud); Mai (Noda); Phoenix (Noda); Legende (Schmitt); Concerto (Tomasi); Fantasia (Villa-Lobos)
- Junior recital (required based upon degree program)

**Senior Level**
- Etudes as assigned – Etudes Expressives (Amelier), 12 Etudes – Caprices (Bozza), Paradigms, Vol. I-II (Caravan), 25 Caprices and an Atonal Suite (Karg-Elert), 53 Etudes, Book III (Mule)
- Repertoire as assigned: Music for Saxophone (Basset); Homage a Sax (Bernier); Caprice en Forme de Valse (Bonneau); Concerto (Challan); Gavambodi II (Charpentier); Musique de Concert (Constant); Prelude, Cadence at Finale (Desenclos); Sonata (DiPasquale); Concerto (Dubois); Concerto (Feld); Hard Fairy (Fitkin); Sonata (Franco); Concerto (Gotovsky); San Antonio (Harbison); Elegie et Rondeau (Husa); Concertino de Camera (Ibert); Impromptu (Karlins); Dialogue (Korte); Holy Roller (Larsen); Concerto in C Minor (Marcello); Ballade (Martin); Le Chant Du Veilleur (Nin); Concerto for Trumpet and Saxophone (Rivier); Renewing the Myth (Shrude); Variations (Snyder); In Freundschaft (Stockhausen); Divertimento (Wuorinen)
- Senior Recital (required based upon degree program)