

# Towson University – Department of Music

## Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

### Discipline: JAZZ/COMMERCIAL TROMBONE

#### *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*

*Each semester the student will be required to memorize and improvise on assigned composition and demonstrate improvement with sight reading.*

#### *Freshman Level*

- Major scales – 2 octaves where possible
- Chromatic scale from any pitch – 2 octaves where possible
- Improvising on the blues progression
- Prepared etudes as assigned

#### *Sophomore Level*

- Modes of the major scale – 2 octaves where possible
- Major/Minor Pentatonic scales – 2 octaves where possible
- Melodic Minor scale – ascending form only

- Harmonic Minor scale
- Whole Tone scale
- Improvising on Rhythm Changes progression
- Prepared etudes as assigned

**Upper Division Jury** (end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

**Junior Level**

- Modes of Melodic minor scale
- Modes of Harmonic minor scale
- Major ii-V-I progression
- Minor ii-V-I progression
- Prepared etudes as assigned
- Junior Recital (required based upon degree program)

**Senior Level**

- Advanced scale studies (symmetrical, altered, etc.)
- 4 note structures and arpeggios
- Expanded scale practice
- Prepared etudes as assigned
- Senior Recital (required based upon degree program)

---

**Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson**

*Each semester the student will be required to memorize and improvise on assigned compositions, transcribe at least one solo from a recording; and demonstrate improvement with sight reading.*

**Freshman Level**

- Major scales – 2 octaves where possible
- Chromatic scale from any pitch – 2 octaves where possible

- Blues scale and its possible applications
- Cycle of 5ths and 1, 2, 3, 5 (etc.) patterns
- Modes of the major scale – w octaves where possible
- Common 7<sup>th</sup> chords and arpeggios
- Cycle of 5ths
- Improvising on the blues progression
- Prepared etudes as assigned

### Sophomore Level

- Melodic Minor scale – ascending form only
- Harmonic Minor scale
- Major/Minor Pentatonic scales – 2 octaves where possible
- H/W diminished scale
- Whole Tone scale
- Improvising on Rhythm Changes progression
- Prepared etudes as assigned

### Upper Division Jury (end of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years.

### Junior Level

- Modes of Melodic minor scale
- Modes of Harmonic minor scale
- Major ii-V-I progression
- Minor ii-V-I progression
- Giant Steps sequence
- Prepared etudes as assigned
- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

## Senior Level

- Advanced scale studies (symmetrical, altered, etc.)
- 4 note structures and arpeggios
- Expanded scale practice
- 5 note structures and arpeggios
- Prepared etudes as assigned
- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)