Towson University – Department of Music

Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

Discipline: PIANO

**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.

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**Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson**

**Freshman Level**

- Study and perform 10 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 20 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods. Repertory will include a classical sonata movement and a polyphonic work from the Baroque period.

- Technical studies will include major and minor scales, arpeggios and broken chords on white keys

**Sophomore Level**

- Study and perform 10 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 20 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and must include a composition by an American composer.

- Technical studies will include major and minor scales, arpeggios, and broken chords on black keys
**Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)**

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

**Junior Level**

- Study and perform 10 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 20 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and will include a composition for prepared piano. Technical studies will include a Concert-Etude of the Romantic period.

**Senior Level**

- Study and perform 10 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 20 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and will include a composition composed within the last decade.

- Technical studies will include a Concert-Etude of the Romantic period.

- Senior recital (required based upon degree program)

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**Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson**

**Freshman Level**

- Study, memorize, and perform 15 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 30 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods. Repertory will include a classical sonata movement and a polyphonic work from the Baroque period.

- Technical studies will include major and minor scales, arpeggios, and broken chords on white keys

**Sophomore Level**

- Study, memorize and perform 15 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 30 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and must include a composition by an American composer and a complete sonata of the Classical period.

- Technical studies will include major and minor scales, arpeggios, and broken chords on black keys

**Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)**

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years
Junior Level

➢ Study, memorize, and perform 15 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 30 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and will include a minimum of 4 style periods and will include a composition for prepared piano.

➢ Technical studies will include a Concert-Etude of the Romantic period and improvisation of a concerto cadenza in the early classical style.

Senior Level

➢ Study, memorize and perform 15 minutes of approved solo repertory each semester for a total of 30 minutes. Repertory will be chosen from a minimum of 4 style periods and will include a composition composed within the last decade.

➢ Technical studies will include a French Impressionistic etude and the improvisation of a concerto cadenza in the style of choice

➢ Senior recital (required based upon degree program)