

Towson University – Department of Music

Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

Discipline: VIOLA

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

- Scales and arpeggios in 2 or 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Wohlfahrt, Mazas)
- Expanded techniques and musicality as appropriate to level – accuracy of pitch and rhythm, shifting, vibrato, good characteristic sound, expression of dynamics and musicality
- Solos appropriate to level (Telemann, Bach, or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher

Sophomore Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 2 or 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Wohlfahrt, Mazas, Kreutzer)
- Expanded techniques as appropriate to level (double stops, broken thirds, octaves, etc.), accuracy of pitch and rhythm, shifting, vibrato, good characteristic sound, expression of dynamics and musicality

- Solos appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Hoffmeister or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher

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

- Proficiency demonstrated by a set of repertoire including scales, etudes, and contrasting pieces as determined by the teacher

Junior Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Mazas Kreutzer)
- Continued developing artistry
- Solo pieces appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Stamitz, Schumann, or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher
- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Senior Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Mazas Kreutzer)
- Continued developing artistry
- Solo pieces appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Brahms, Hindemith or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher
- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson

Freshman Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 2 or 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Wohlfahrt, Mazas)
- Expanded techniques and musicality as appropriate to level – accuracy of pitch and rhythm, shifting, vibrato, good characteristic sound, expression of dynamics and musicality

- Solos appropriate to level (pieces by Telemann, Bach, or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher

Sophomore Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 2 to 3 octaves, varied rhythms/bowings
- Expanded techniques and musicality as appropriate to level (double stops, broken thirds, octaves, etc.), accuracy of pitch and rhythm, shifting, vibrato, good characteristic sound, expression of dynamics and musicality
- Etudes appropriate to level (Wohlfahrt, Mazas, Kreutzer)
- Solos appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Hoffmeister or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher

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

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years
- Proficiency demonstrated by a set of repertoire including scales, etudes, and contrasting pieces as determined by teacher

Junior Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves, varied rhythms, bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Mazas, Kreutzer)
- Continued developing artistry
- Solo pieces appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Stamitz, Schumann, or equivalent)
- Additional exploration of solo pieces as determined by teacher
- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Senior Level

- Scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves, varied rhythms. bowings
- Etudes appropriate to level (Mazas, Kreutzer)
- Continued developing artistry
- Solo pieces appropriate to level (pieces by Bach, Brahms, Hindemith, or equivalent)
- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)