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.

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)*