



Piano Proficiency Preliminary Examination

Only the degree programs listed below require piano performance and/or sight-reading examinations.

The Graduate Music office will assist in coordinating your exam with the piano faculty.

Students will receive additional information about scheduling their exam time closer to the start of the semester.

MM in Music Theory (M710)

- Present a piano audition of 10-15 minutes involving three prepared pieces of the standard repertoire, each piece representing a different style period. One of the three compositions must be written in a polyphonic style in at least three voices; another must be a first or last movement of a sonata on a level equal to that of Beethoven's Sonata in E, Op. 14/1. Memorization not required.
- Keyboard Sight-reading consists of Bach chorales, a slow movement of a classical sonata, and an easy contemporary work

MM in Choral Conducting (M717), Standard (Q113) and Church Music (Q114) concentrations

- Keyboard sight-reading consists of simple four-part, open choral score reading

MM in Instrumental Conducting – Orchestral focus (M718)

- Keyboard sight-reading for Instrumental Conducting majors consists of a demonstrated ability to sight-read one line at a time from a full orchestral or band score in common transpositions (F, E-flat, B-flat, A) and tenor or alto clefs. The selected excerpts, which require moderate piano technical skills, must be transposed to the proper key and sounding octave.

MM Voice (M730) Performance Concentration (Q506) and Opera Concentration (Q481)

- Perform one or two pieces totaling 3 minutes. The level of difficulty should be at minimum Level 3, similar to the Thomas Attwood, Sonatina No. 1 in G Major or the J.S. Bach, Minuet in G Minor (BWV Anh. 115) or Minuet in G Major (BWV Anh. 116). Memorization not required.
- Keyboard sight reading consists of vocal solo accompaniments of moderate difficulty.

DMA in Conducting (D707) Choral (R113) and Church Music (R114) concentrations

- Keyboard sight-reading consists of simple four-part, open choral score reading

DMA in Conducting (D707) Orchestral concentration (R476)

- Keyboard sight-reading consists of demonstrating the ability to sight-read from a full orchestral score. Two excerpts will be given to the student 24 hours prior to the exam, including 4-part strings and 4-5 woodwinds and/or brass, including at least two transpositions. Two additional excerpts will be given at the exam, including a single line in alto or tenor clef, and a single line in B-flat, F, or A transposition.

DMA in Voice (D730)

- Perform one or two pieces totaling 3 minutes. The level of difficulty should be at minimum Level 3, similar to the Thomas Attwood, Sonatina No. 1 in G Major or the J.S. Bach, Minuet in G Minor (BWV Anh. 115) or Minuet in G Major (BWV Anh. 116). Memorization not required.
- Keyboard sight reading consists of vocal solo accompaniments of moderate difficulty.