

Music Department
Concordia University, Irvine

Piano Competency Requirement for the Music Major

edition 05-0830

The following keyboard requirement for the Music Major appears under “Performance” in the 2004-2005 University Catalog (p. 46):

By graduation, the student must . . . also meet the basic competency in piano (eligibility for Level 202) and voice (Level 100/101).

This means that all music majors must satisfy the requirements of MUKP 201 before graduation. It is NOT a requirement to take Level 202, though all are encouraged and welcome to do so. If the *principal instrument is piano or organ*, the completion of Level 401 in piano or organ is expected by graduation.

If the *principal instrument is NOT piano or organ*, one must demonstrate minimum competence in one of the following ways:

- a. take **piano lessons** until MUKP 201 status is granted by the music faculty in a jury;
- b. be declared by the faculty eligible for and take **organ lessons** for two semesters;
OR . . .
- c. take a **piano competency test** administered by arrangement through the Music Office at the beginning of any semester. A fee of \$20 must be paid to the Music Office upon application. This fee is not refundable, must apply to the current semester’s piano competency test, and cannot be applied to a future semester.

Students are encouraged to register for MUKP100 (piano class) as a beginner, or MUKP 101 (private lessons) and progress at their own pace. They may attempt to demonstrate Level 201 competence at the beginning of any semester after that.

In the case of failure, the student may re-apply to take the examination each succeeding semester until passed.

The competencies expected to complete MUKP 201 and be eligible for MUKP 202 are as follows. All elements must be performed satisfactorily.

Please turn over.

Requirements to demonstrate piano competency:

1. **Scales.** Play any major or minor (harmonic) scale requested by the faculty, hands together, two octaves, steadily at a minimum rate of 60 bpm.
2. **Arpeggios.** Play any major or minor arpeggio requested by the faculty, hands separately, two octaves, steadily at a minimum of 60 bpm.
3. **Chords.** Play primary chords for any major key requested by the faculty, hands separately, steadily at a minimum of 20 bpm.
4. **Accompaniment.** Select and play appropriate primary chords to accompany a folk song selected by the faculty. This may be prepared ahead of time.
5. **Play a hymn.** Play one hymn-like piece of the student's choice in four parts with both hands at a steady, singable tempo. Use of a score is allowed.
6. **Play a piece.** Play one short (about two pages) work with both hands in a manner appropriate to the style. Use of a score is allowed. See the Music Office for a list of approved pieces, or present your own selection for approval with your application.
7. **Sight-read** a simple four-part hymn-like song or second-year piece provided by the faculty, steadily with both hands, though a slower than indicated tempo will be allowed. Five minutes will be allowed for individual orientation.

Music Department Concordia University

edition 04-1103

Application for Piano Competency Examination

This student is applying to take the Piano Competency Examination to fulfill Music Department requirements for the music major. A nonrefundable application fee of \$20 must be attached, and the examination be completed by the end of the first week of the semester as indicated below.

Applicant _____ Date of application _____

Proposed approximate date of completion _____

If the applicant selects pieces for #5 and #6 not already appearing on the Examination list the pieces must be approved by the Examiner prior to the Examination.

To be completed by Music Program Coordinator:

Fee submitted (initial) _____ Scheduled completion date _____

The Examiner completes the following, circling P (pass) or F (fail) as appropriate:

- P F Scales.** Play any major or minor (harmonic) scale requested by the faculty, hands together, two octaves, steadily at a minimum rate of 60 bpm.
- P F Arpeggios.** Play any major or minor arpeggio requested by the faculty, hands separately, two octaves, steadily at a minimum of 60 bpm.
- P F Chords.** Play primary chords for any major key requested by the faculty, hands separately, steadily at a minimum of 20 bpm.
- P F Accompaniment.** Select and play appropriate primary chords to accompany a folk song selected by the faculty. This may be prepared ahead of time.
- P F Play a hymn.** Play one hymn-like piece of the student's choice in four parts with both hands at a steady, singable tempo. Use of a score is allowed. Piece performed: _____
- P F Play a piece.** Play one short (about two pages) work with both hands in a manner appropriate to the style. Use of a score is allowed. See the Music Office for a list of approved pieces, or present your own selection for approval with your application. Piece performed: _____
- P F Sight-read** a simple four-part hymn-like song or second-year piece provided by the faculty, steadily with both hands, though a slower than indicated tempo will be allowed. Five minutes will be allowed for individual orientation. Piece performed: _____

Examination Result: (Examiner please sign the appropriate space):

Pass _____ Fail _____

Date passed _____ Date failed _____