PIANO PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

NASM requirements dictate that all music majors must acquire keyboard competency through the piano proficiency examination. Students MUST complete this exam before the end of their sophomore year. Failing to do so will result in the inability to enroll in future music courses.

Students may take this exam throughout their freshman and sophomore years by signing up on a weekly spreadsheet.
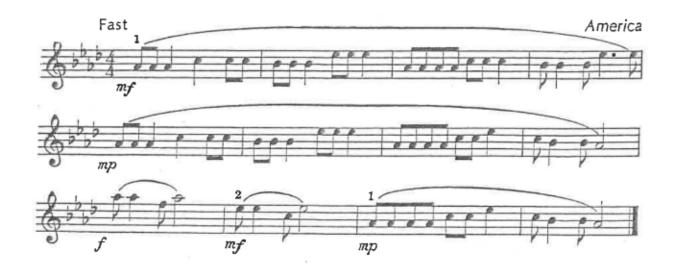
Those students unable to complete the exam during the first week of their freshman year will be enrolled in the year-long Piano Class I and II.

Each area of the exam must be performed accurately. Students will not be allowed to practice during the exam.

Below are the required components of the proficiency exam.

HARMONIZED MELODY EXAMPLES

- Harmonize these melodies using I, IV, and V (V7) chords
- Please do not write in the chords
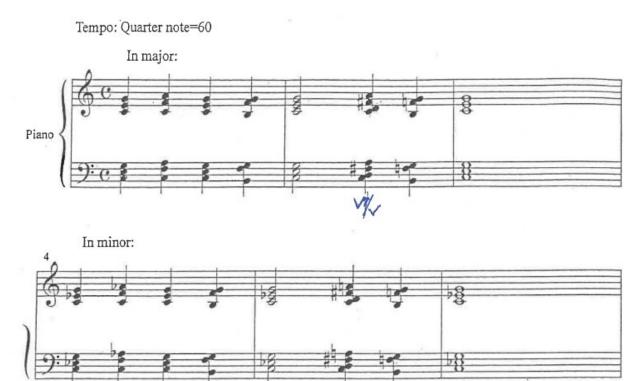
With bounce

Pomerania

Moderato

Italy

Allegretto

England

TRANSPOSITION

Transpose the following example to the following major keys: G-flat, B, B-flat, A-flat, D-flat, E-flat

Michael, Row the Boat Ashore
(Chords in LH)

CHORD PATTERNS

- Perform the following chord progressions in ALL 12 MAJOR AND MINOR KEYS
- Metronome tempo of Quarter note = 60
- Perfection expected first time

MEMORY

- Perform from memory Happy Birthday in the key of F – melody with LH harmony

IMPROVISATION

- Below is a chord progression to which you will improvise a melody
- Give each chord 3 beats in 6/8 time
- Your improvised melody should be simple and creative
- Play the improvisation in the following MINOR keys: a minor, d minor, g minor

Here is the chord progression: |I V7|i i| iv V7|iv iv|V7 V7|i V7|i i|

REPERTOIRE

- Intermediate level (Clementi sonatinas, Kuhlau sonatinas, Burgmüller)
- Must be approved by a professor

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

- All MAJOR AND HARMONIC MINOR scales performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
    - o 2 octaves, hands separately
- All MAJOR AND MINOR arpeggios performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
    - o 2 octaves, hands separately

PERFORMANCE OF THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

- Perform the following arrangement without hesitation or mistakes

The Star Spangled Banner

stream - ing! And the   rock - ets   red   glare,   The bombs

burst   -   ing   in   air;   Gave   proof   through   the

night   that   our   flag   was   still   there.   Oh _____

say   does   that   star   spang - led   ban - ner __ yet __   wave __   O'er the

land _____   of   the   free   And the   home   of   the   brave.