

Piano Area Guidelines

Admissions: Admission to the BA or BM degree and placement in applied lessons for the BME degree require an audition for the piano faculty. Recordings may be submitted at the discretion of the faculty. Admission to the minor is by audition with the studio teacher.

Suggested Audition Repertoire: Repertoire recommendations are supplied by the studio teacher and are available on the Department of Music website.

Suggested repertoire: Repertoire level for BA, BM, and BME degrees will be determined by the applied instructor and will typically cover standard literature. Repertoire criteria are found in applied lesson syllabi.

Private lessons: Students receive one fifty-minute lesson per week for four (BA), six (BME), or eight (BM) semesters depending on the degree in which they are enrolled. Applied lessons for BA and BM degrees receive two credits per semester and one credit per semester for the BME degree. All of these lessons must be in the same applied area.

Convocation: Bachelor of Music degree students will perform on his or her major instrument no less than twice per year on Departmental Convocation. BA and BME students are required to perform at least once per academic year on Departmental Convocation. These performances must be performed solo and memorized. Additional public performances are strongly encouraged at various venues in the Auburn/Opelika community, as determined by the applied teacher.

Juries: All students enrolled in applied lessons must perform for their respective Performance Area professors at the end of every semester. Repertoire requirements for juries are determined by the specific Performance Area faculty. The student will receive written comments about his or her jury performance. Each faculty member in attendance assigns a grade for the jury performance. The student must pass the jury to go on to the next level of applied lessons. The average of these grades counts one-third of the applied grade for the semester. During semesters where a degree recital is given, a successful recital jury and recital may replace the jury for that semester.

Sophomore Comprehensive Exam: All students enrolled in MUAP 2620 or MUAP 2210 must complete a sophomore comprehensive jury examination. These juries will be approximately 30 minutes in length and will consist of two main components: interview and performance jury.

The interview will be a brief oral examination covering two main areas: music theory and instrument specific information. Students will be responsible for performing and explaining the following:

- Major and minor scales, chords, intervals, key signatures
- Names and history/impact of three to four significant artists on their primary instrument
- Specific knowledge of the pieces performed on jury (may include historical and theoretical context, stylistic and pedagogical issues, etc.)

Piano Area Guidelines

- Instrument specific techniques

The performance jury will consist of two pieces of contrasting styles approaching or at the level of a junior recital program. Music should not exceed a total of 15 minutes. Other specific requirements by area may be imposed and will be stated in course syllabi. In addition, sight-reading will also be a component of the performance jury.

This jury must be taken at the end of the semester of MUAP 2620 or MUAP 2210. Students must receive 70% (C) or higher in both the jury and lesson grade to pass MUAP 2620 or 60% (D) to pass MUAP 2210. The committee will consist of a minimum of three faculty members of the specified area or, in the case of an area with fewer than three faculty members, another designated faculty representative. Students transferring to Auburn and having completed the equivalent of MUAP 2620 or MUAP 2210 must also meet the minimal requirements of the Sophomore Comprehensive Performance Jury to be placed into MUAP 3520 or MUAP 3120. Students may be prohibited from taking upper divisional classes until this jury has been passed.

Final results of this jury can impact the MUAP course grade in these ways:

1. Passing grade for the course and approval to continue in applied study
2. Passing grade for the course and conditional approval to continue in applied study with the student retaking and passing a required portion of the jury before a date determined by the committee. **Students must pass the performance portion of the sophomore comprehensive to move into 3000-level applied study. Only one semester of applied study at the 3000-level is allowed until all portions of the sophomore comprehensive are completed successfully.**
3. Failing grade and disapproval for the student to continue in applied study.
4. Per university policy, students who fail a course may retake that course.

Recital requirements:

- A. Recital requirements exist in the BM and BME curricula. Typically, MUSI 3800: Junior Performance Recital (BM) and MUSI 4000: Music Education Senior Recital Project (BME) are half-length performances and MUSI 4800: Senior Performance Recital (BM) is a full-length performance.
- B. The student must be enrolled in applied lessons the semester of the recital. MUSI 3800 and MUSI 4000 are typically completed during the semester a student is enrolled in Performance VI. MUSI 4800 is typically completed during the semester a student is enrolled in Performance VIII.
- C. The repertoire for these recitals is typically approved by the student's applied teacher.
- D. In preparation for the recital, each student must pass a Recital Jury, taken a minimum of two weeks before the actual recital (as determined by the applied instructor).
- E. All recitals are graded by the faculty in the student's Performance Area. The average of these grades counts for one-third of the student's applied grade for the semester in which the recital occurs.
- F. In the semester of a student's recital, the recital jury and the recital must be passed in order to pass the MUAP and recital courses. The recital grade is one-third of the total applied grade. Should the student be granted a justified incomplete grade, that

Piano Area Guidelines

incomplete grade is applied to the MUAP and recital courses until the recital is completed. Note that the university imposes a deadline of six months from the end of the semester in which the course was taken for the incomplete to be satisfied.

Grading Criteria: Grades for applied music will be based on a final lesson grade (as determined by the applied teacher) with criteria for each component of the grade outlined in the syllabus and the jury grade (as determined by the area faculty). Suggested components may be participation in lessons, convocation performance, and studio class. Note the provision under Juries above. Grades are awarded based on these criteria:

- A Exceptional performance and preparation
- B Above average performance and preparation
- C Average performance and preparation
- D Below average performance and preparation
- F Unacceptable performance and preparation

Performance Deportment: Issues of performance deportment (ie. attire, behavior, bowing, speaking, stage manners, etc.) will be addressed in weekly studio classes.