

## PIANO PROFICIENCY

All music majors, except those with a keyboard major, must pass a piano proficiency examination demonstrating functional use of the piano. Students with a primary applied area in keyboard will not take the piano proficiency but will cover functional piano material in their course of primary applied study.

**Before being recommended for student teaching or attempting the senior recital hearing, every non-keyboard major must pass the piano proficiency.** This examination should be completed by the end of the fourth semester of enrollment in secondary piano class (MU262). It must be attempted each semester thereafter until passed.

**Enrollment in secondary piano class is necessary each semester until the piano proficiency requirement is completed.** Students who pass the piano proficiency exam before completing four hours of secondary class piano may take the remaining credit hours in either piano or organ.

Students enrolled in secondary piano classes may pass portions of the piano proficiency material. In order to attempt a portion of the proficiency material in jury before the final semester, the student must attempt at least three (3) sections of the exam. **The student will only be allowed to attempt a portion of the proficiency exam with the permission of the class piano instructor.** Students who complete the prepared literature portion of the exam will be expected to continue preparing literature pieces in subsequent secondary piano classes.

The MU262 Final Exam is the Piano Proficiency. It is a jury exam and is held during final exam week. It must be passed completely in this fourth semester in order to receive a passing grade for the semester. Students who do not complete the proficiency in MU 262 will receive a failing grade and must enroll in MU262 each semester until it has been passed.

### **PREPARED PORTION OF THE PIANO PROFICIENCY:**

#### **1. Major and Harmonic Minor Scales and Cadences**

- A. All scales hands separately, two octaves, at a steady tempo and correctly fingered.
- B. Following each scale, the student will play a I-IV-V7-I cadence.

#### **2. Vocalises**

Two different vocalizes in all keys.

#### **3. Repertoire**

Two pieces of prepared literature. The instructor will approve the repertoire before the students begins preparation of the pieces. The jury will choose which piece to hear at the exam. Memorization is optional. The student must provide an original copy of the pieces for the jury.

**4. Hymns**

Two hymns as scored in the 2008 *Baptist Hymnal*.

**5. Harmonization**

Provide accompaniment for written melodies. Melodies may be in major or minor keys.

- A. Prepared ahead: Play from two lead sheets. Both pieces must have a left-hand accompaniment pattern.
- B. Sight Reading: Sight read a melody with no chord symbols provided or play by ear a requested melody. Play again and add appropriate I, IV, or V(7) chords with the left hand. These left hand chords may be simple block chords.

**6. Transposition**

The same two prepared harmonizations from #5 may be used and played in a transposed key of the student's choice.

**7. Score Reading**

Play any two voice parts (adjacent or non-adjacent) from choral music or instrumental music (student may choose). Student will be prepared to play from three scores approved by the instructor. The jury will choose one piece in the examination. The student must provide two originals of the pieces used for the jury

