KEYBOARD PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR MUSIC MAJORS

Keyboard Proficiency Requirements can be completed on either Piano or Organ. Piano Proficiency Requirements are basic keyboard skills valuable to the trained musician, including scale and arpeggio playing, sight-reading, transposition, and harmonization. Most majors choose to be tested on skills they have studied the previous quarter in Applied Music 222 (Piano) during Hearings.

I. Performance. Study and perform a movement of early intermediate difficulty, as determined appropriate by the instructing professor.

II. Sight reading. Play at sight pieces with single-note melodies and blocked or broken chord accompaniments, such as found in upper elementary level repertoire.

III. Accompaniment Skills. Harmonization and transposition at sight of simple melodies in any key. See progression 3a below.

IV. Technique

A. Scales. All major scales in two octaves, parallel hands; all minor scales (in three forms) two octaves, separate hands. Played steadily with consistent fingering; recommended tempo: MM = 168 per note.

Arpeggios. All major and minor triads in two octaves, parallel hands; all diminished sevenths, separate hands. Played steadily with consistent fingering.

B. Chords in Block Form

1. Triads: major, minor, diminished, augmented, on all keys. Root position and inversions.

2. Sevenths: maj-maj, maj-min, min-min, dim-min, dim-dim on all keys. Root positions and inversions. Hand over hand is suggested.

3. Chord Progressions in all major and minor keys.


   b) I – ii₆ – Iᵣ₄ – V₇ – I.

   c) I – vi – IV – ii₆ – Iᵣ₄ – V₇ – I