

# UW Piano Proficiency Requirements

Passing the Piano Proficiency exam is required of all music majors for graduation. Four semesters of Elementary Class Piano (MUSC 1290, 1295, 2290, and 2295) are offered to prepare the non-piano student for this exam. Passing the Piano Proficiency exam at any time will also substitute for the Elementary Class Piano requirement. Music Education majors must pass the piano proficiency prior to the end of their second year, Spring semester.

1. Scales. All major and harmonic minor scales, two octaves, hands together, or hands separate with correct fingering.
2. Harmonization. Harmonize two simple melodies (one major and one minor) at sight using the primary triads I, IV, and V or i, iv, and V.
3. Sight-reading. Sight-read a homophonic composition with a simple chord accompaniment and a hymn. Vocal majors will also read from an open vocal score (two or three parts). Instrumental majors will also read one line from a transposing instrument.
4. Sight Transposition. Transpose the homophonic composition from above into two keys (major second, major third, perfect fourth or perfect fifth from the original key).
5. Prepared Folk Song Harmonization. Prepare two harmonizations using a melody line and chord symbols only. You may not play from a written-out score. The examples should be in different keys and meters using I, vi, IV, ii, V7 (between the two songs each chord must be used at least once). You must use a different accompaniment pattern for each example (Alberti bass, broken chords, waltz bass, etc.). Block chords are not acceptable.
6. Accompaniment: Prepare a simple vocal or instrumental accompaniment in the student's major area. (Do not bring a performer to your exam).
7. Prepared Patriotic Songs. Prepare, play and sing "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America." You may use your own arrangement of the patriotic songs or the arrangements available from the Department.

Correct use of the pedal is mandatory. Pedal must be used in the prepared harmonizations, the patriotic songs, and the accompaniment where appropriate.

To pass the exam, all components of the proficiency must be completed within the twenty minute scheduled exam time.