

Shepherd

UNIVERSITY



Instrumental Area Handbook

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2021-22

Private Applied Study

Entrance Auditions

All students seeking entrance into the Instrumental Performance, Instrumental Music Education, or the Music Composition programs must audition for admission into the university.

Audition Repertoire

Incoming freshmen and transfer students must present two pieces or movements of the same piece in contrasting styles. One piece should demonstrate the applicant's technical ability and the other piece should focus on tone quality and musicianship. An accompanist will not be provided, but the applicant may bring his/her own.

Scholarships

All instrumental scholarships will be awarded through the School of Music. Participation in the instrumental ensembles is beneficial to the performer and is required for the duration of the time the student is on scholarship, as is required participation in the marching band and additional ensembles. The Director of Instrumental Activities will be present during the audition or will have a separate hearing, and will be active in deciding upon scholarship recipients.

Applied Instrumental Lessons

It is the student's responsibility to register for the correct course and section number appropriate for their instrument of study. **Registration for 1 credit of Applied Instrument entitles the student to thirteen (13) 50-minute lessons; ½ credit = thirteen (13) 25-minute lessons.** Each studio teacher will outline specific course requirements in their syllabus.

All instrumental majors are required to take 50-minute applied lessons. Exceptions may be made only by the consensus of the Director of Instrumental Activities and the student's applied teacher. Non-music majors who wish to partake of applied lessons must also be enrolled in one large instrumental ensemble.

Practice requirements

Students must maintain a regular practice schedule to be created in consultation with his/her private instrumental instructor. It is recommended that students schedule AT LEAST one hour of practice every day.

Each instrumental major is expected to know their part for every piece they are assigned before any ensemble practice and before any lesson. **It is unacceptable to be unprepared.**

Double Majors

If a student is double-majoring in any two areas, the student must fulfill the requirements of both concentrations. When the requirements of two areas coincide, a student will not be expected to repeat requirements. For example, a student will not prepare more than one senior recital.

Jury Process

Explanation of the jury process

The semester jury acts as a routine “audition” for every student. All students who continue in music beyond Shepherd will be faced with the audition process, be it for graduate school, a church job, regional theater, an apprenticeship, etc., and therefore all students need to gain practice in this skill. The ultimate goal is that the student is ready to take a graduate school or service band audition by the time on their senior music activity. The assigned grade for a student’s jury performance indicates their level of progress toward this ultimate goal. The jury grade will be assigned by the jury committee, consisting of at least two full-time faculty members as well as applied faculty as scheduling permits.

Upon the discretion of the instrumental faculty, a student may be denied a jury hearing if the student is not prepared. A grade of incomplete will result. Only one incomplete will be given to a student during his/her residency at Shepherd University. The incomplete must be made up and the highest grade attainable will be a “B”. A second semester without proper preparation will result in dismissal from the School of Music.

How the jury grade differs from the lesson grade

The applied lesson, as a separate course, requires a grade from the applied teacher. While the student’s progress on their instrument may be a large part of this grade, the teacher will ultimately base the grade on the student’s fulfillment of course requirements as outlined in the syllabus (i.e., practice and preparation for each lesson, attendance, implementation of skills and knowledge, etc.).

Make-up Juries

An “Incomplete” will be given to a student who misses his/her jury due to illness or other circumstances approved by the instrumental faculty. A make-up jury time will be listed within the first two weeks of the following semester. All regular jury requirements still apply.

Exceptions to jurying

Every student must jury every semester unless the student has done a recital that semester and achieved the required level. Juries for comments only are permissible at the discretion of the applied instructor.

Music Competency Assessment

All Instrumental Performance, Music Education, and Composition Majors:

All Music Students are required to provide artifacts that represent the successful completion of a varied set of music competencies during their progress toward their chosen degree path. Selected artifacts from each music competency must be uploaded into each student’s individual electronic portfolio. This portfolio will be assessed by the music faculty each semester with a final review to take place during senior seminar.

Jury Requirements

Sight Reading

All students are required to sight read an example chosen by the music faculty. The sight-reading portion may make up 10% of the final jury grade assignment.

Requirements for Instrumental Performance Majors and Music Education Majors

	Repertoire	Technical Skills
Semester 1	(See "Audition Repertoire") 2 pieces in contrasting styles - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales (one octave) MM=60 Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch and rhythm Good characteristic sound
Semester 2	2 pieces in contrasting styles - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales (one octave) MM=70 All relative natural minor scales (one octave) Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch and rhythm Expression of dynamics and musicality Good characteristic sound
Semester 3	2 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales and arpeggios (one octave) MM=70 All relative natural and harmonic minor scales (one octave) Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm and intonation Expression of dynamics and musicality Excellent tone quality
Semester 4	A minimum of 2 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales and arpeggios (two octaves) MM=80 All three forms of relative minor scales (one octave) [natural, harmonic, and melodic] Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm and intonation Expression of dynamics and musicality Excellent tone quality Knowledge of appropriate stage etiquette
Semester 5	A minimum of 2 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales in thirds (one octave) MM=90 All three forms of relative minor scales (one octave) [natural, harmonic, and melodic] Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm and intonation Expression of phrasing and musicality Excellent tone quality
Semester 6	3 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales in thirds (two octaves) MM=100 All three forms of relative AND parallel minor scales (one octave) [natural, harmonic, and melodic] Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm, and intonation Expression of musicality in every respect Superior tone quality

Semester 7	A minimum of 3 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales in thirds (two octaves) MM=110 All three forms of relative AND parallel minor scales (two octaves) [natural, harmonic, and melodic] Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm, and intonation Expression of musicality in every respect Superior tone quality
Semester 8	A minimum of 4 pieces in contrasting styles of advanced repertoire as designated by the applied studio instructor - one lyrical - one technical	All Major Scales in thirds (two octaves) MM=120 All three forms of relative AND parallel minor scales (two octaves) [natural, harmonic, and melodic] Chromatic scale (two octaves) Accuracy of pitch, rhythm, and intonation Expression of musicality in every respect Superior tone quality Stamina (as demonstrated by the senior recital)

Recital Requirements

Music Education majors are required to perform one senior recital, comprised of a minimum of 45 minutes of music and/or music and lecture. All repertoire is to be approved by the applied teacher and should reflect the requirements of the student's current level.

Instrumental Performance majors are required to perform two recitals: one 25 minute junior recital and one 45 minute senior recital. All repertory is to be approved by the applied teacher and repertoire selections should reflect the requirements of the student's degree program.

Music Composition majors are required to perform one senior recital comprised of a minimum of 45 minutes comprised solely of original repertoire of their own composing.

Recital Preparation & Proposals

Recital proposals are due during midterm week each semester and must be submitted one semester prior to the recital semester. In order to be approved for a recital students must have completed all portions of the PPE, earned a grade of B or higher in applied lessons in the semester prior to their recital, and passed their most recent MCA portfolio review. Students are be required to give a recital hearing no more than three weeks but no less than two weeks before their recital date. At least two faculty members and the applied instructor will attend the hearing and may request any pieces from the approved program. The decision will then be made to Pass or Provisionally Pass which allows the student to perform the recital at the scheduled date. Failing a recital hearing means the student is not allowed to perform their recital and will be required to submit a recital proposal in the subsequent semester.

Recital Postponement Due to Illness

Health issues are a special case. A doctor's examination is required and documentation must be provided. If circumstances arise where a student is simply unable to perform, arrangements will be made with the music department head and the student's applied teacher as to how to proceed with the recital. When a documented medical emergency occurs, no penalty to the grade should be assessed.

Other Performance Requirements

Wednesday 1:10pm Recitals

All students except those in their first semester are required to perform once per semester on the Wednesday 1:10 pm recitals.

Ensemble Policy

All instrumental majors must enroll in a large ensemble (Ram Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band) every semester with or without credit. The following exceptions are granted to large ensemble participation:

- When student teaching (in which case all ensemble requirements are waived)
- If a student has been a full-time student at Shepherd University for eight semesters, they may submit a petition in writing to the music faculty in order to be granted semester exemption for the large ensemble requirement. Petitions will be voted upon by the music faculty whose decision is binding.

Students are encouraged to participate in small ensembles (jazz ensemble, jazz combo, chamber ensembles, orchestra) each semester.

Concert Attendance

Required Concert Attendance:

- 100 approved concert events to graduate
- All instrumental ensemble & vocal ensemble concerts
- All Salon Series concerts

It is strongly suggested that instrumental majors attend all student ensemble concerts, student recitals, and faculty recitals. Keep a running, cumulative portfolio of all concerts attended. A faculty member must sign all concert programs for those at Shepherd University, on the evening of the performance. In addition, when the Instrumental Department sponsors an off-campus trip to a performance, it is expected that all majors attend. Concert logs must be completed by the final day of classes each semester (this includes your advisor's signature) and turned in to the Chair of the School of Music.

The Piano Proficiency Exam

All music majors must pass the Piano Proficiency Exam by the end of their sophomore year. In addition, music education majors must pass the Piano Proficiency Exam prior to applying for Juncture 2.

1. Exam Content: A PDF file of the exam content, requirements, and sample repertoire may be found at:

<http://www.shepherd.edu/music/current-music-students>

2. Course Options: Students are encouraged to register for the class piano sequence to help prepare for successful completion of the Piano Proficiency Exam. Depending on prior experience, students wishing to take a class piano course will be placed in one of the following course levels:

MUSC 138 Basic Keyboarding Skills

MUSC 140 Class Piano I

MUSC 141 Class Piano II

For all sections of class piano, students must receive a grade of C or above in order to be qualified to take the exam.

3. Freshman Year Evaluation: At the end of their freshman year, all music majors are required to take the Piano Proficiency Exam. Any student who is unable to successfully pass the exam will be required to register in the Class Piano II course for each semester thereafter until they are able to successfully pass the exam.

4. Exam Scheduling: Exams will be scheduled at during the midterm and final exam weeks of each semester. Students will sign up for individual exam sessions with the Coordinator of Keyboard Studies. Students must pass ALL components of the exam. If a student does not pass one of the components, he/she may retake that portion of the exam at a later time.