

**School of Music
College of Fine Arts
Western Michigan University**

KEYBOARD REQUIREMENTS are determined by placement exams taken during first semester of enrollment. Students with no keyboard skills may begin immediately with MUS 1200. All music degrees require some keyboard proficiency:

Instrumental Performance, Bachelor of Arts in Music:
MUS 1200, 1210 (two semesters)

Vocal Performance:
MUS 1200, 1210, 2200, 2210, 3200, 3210 (six semesters)

Music Therapy:
MUS 1200, 1210, 2200, 2210, 3200, 3210 (six semesters)

Jazz Studies:
MUS 1200, 1210, 2200, 2210 (four semesters)

Composition:
MUS 1200, 1210, 2200 (three semesters)

Instrumental Music Education:
MUS 2200, 2210 (two-four semesters*)

Choral/General Music Education:
MUS 2200, 2210, 3200, 3210 (four-six semesters*)

*Music education students who do not have the skills necessary to enter MUS 2200 will take MUS 1200 and/or 1210 as remedial coursework.

CLASS PIANO OBJECTIVES (for MUS 1200, 1210, 2200, 2210)

Scales:

MUS 1200 Major and minor 5-finger patterns, eighth notes @ 72; F#, B, C#, F then CGDAE majors, 2 8ves, 2 hands, quarter notes @ 72.

MUS 1210 All major scales and white-key natural and harmonic minors, eighth notes @ 60.

MUS 2200 All majors, eighth notes at 90, all forms of all minors, eighths @ 72.

MUS 2210 All majors and minors, eighths @ 90+.

Harmonic progressions:

MUS 1200 All keys I-V6/5-I, quarters @ 72. White key majors: I-IV-V-I (root position chords) one hand, quarters @ 60. I-IV6/4-I-V6/5-I in major and minor white keys,

quarters @ 60, with a) both hands playing chords, and b) left hand. playing roots, right hand chords, c) right hand 5-finger pattern, left hand harmonization.

MUS 1210 Left hand harmonization of RH major scales with I, IV, V chords. I-IV⁶/4-I-V⁶/5-I progression in all major and white key minors, blocked and patterned, with a) both hands playing harmony and b) left hand. playing roots, right hand playing chords with quarters @ 60. Use pedal. Progressions using ii and ii⁶.

MUS 2200 Review above scale harmonization. All major and minor I-IV-V progressions. Secondary dominant chord progressions such as I-ii⁶-V⁶/5 of V- V-I, and I-V⁶/5 of ii-ii-V⁶/5 of iii-iii-V⁶/5 of IV-IV, etc.

MUS 2210 All above progressions with greater fluency, especially “automatic” ease with I-IV-V progressions and understanding of secondary dominants.

Transpositions:

MUS 1200 Prepared music for 2 hands to different key. Sightread 1-line 5-finger melody in different key than written.

MUS 1210 Prepared harmonization up or down a step. Sightread 1-line melody up to a P4 up or down. Sightread Bb instrument part in concert key, example includes some accidentals.

MUS 2200 Prepared harmonization up or down 3rd and 4th. Sightread Eb or Bb instrument parts, transposing to concert key. Examples include melodies with accidentals. Play in correct range of particular instrument.

MUS 2210 Sightread 1-line at a time, band instruments Eb, Bb and F in concert key. Instruments in correct range, use of (small notes) band scores, accidentals present in any parts.

Improvisation:

In all sections, improvisation based on given rhythms, harmonic progressions, question and answer phrases, left hand ostinati, pentatonic black-key limit with wide range of texture, all modes (on white keys only) and blues.

Score-reading:

MUS 1200 Read different single lines of large score.

MUS 1210 Prepare two parts of a larger score.

MUS 2200 SATB scores: sightread any 2 consecutive parts (i.e. SA or TB of SATB). Prepare easier 3-part examples. Use pedal when appropriate.

MUS 2210 SATB scores: sightread any 2 non-consecutive parts. (i.e. SB or ST of SATB). Prepare 3-part vocal scores: TTB, SSA, STB, etc. Use pedal when appropriate.

Harmonization of melodies:

MUS 1200 Sightread melody of limited range (up to a 6th), adding I and V harmonization, with or without symbols. Practice and perform a melody requiring I, IV and V harmonization, using blocked chords.

MUS 1210 Sightread major or minor melody of larger range (8ve), adding I, IV and V, blocked. Prepare more complex melodies for harmonization with I,IV,V, with left hand accompaniment in pattern, or on offbeats. Examples with or without letter and Roman numeral symbols.

MUS 2200 Sightread right hand melodies while left hand provides I,IV,V blocked harmonization, with and without symbols. Prepare harmonizations with I,IV,V, ii, and V/V accompaniment in broken patterns, with or without symbols.

MUS 2210 Sightread melodies with I,IV,V blocked harmonization with ease and steady flow, no symbols provided. Prepare harmonizations which use any secondary dominants, providing patterned left hand accompaniment.

Sightreading piano scores

MUS 1200 Grand staff orientation (flashcards, lots of bass clef) Unison 5-finger melodies with focus on interval, then pieces with (5-finger) hand position changes, simpler counterpoint within 5-finger range, and examples where one hand has written out I- V-V chord accompaniment.

MUS 1210 Increasing complexity of texture of piano music, with greater range, counterpoint and position changes for both hands, and harder key signatures.

MUS 2200 Increasingly more complex examples as above.

MUS 2210 Increasingly greater complexity in range, movement, rhythmic divisions, counterpoint, and key.

Playing by ear

In all sections, folk tunes assigned to be learned by ear with melody and harmony consistent with the level being addressed under “harmonization”.

Questions about class piano requirements may be directed to—

Dr. Silvia Roederer, Professor of Music (piano) – silvia.roederer@wmich.edu or 269/387-4690

Or

Ms. Margaret Hamilton, Undergraduate Advisor – margaret.hamilton@wmich.edu or 269/387-4672