

MUSA 131 Class Piano II Proficiency Rubric [Revised Spring 2016]

Student's name: _____

Instructors: Dr. Arthur Houle
& Lisa Bush

Grading

90 to 100 points = A
80 to 89 = B

70 to 79 = C*
60 to 69 = D

59 or less = F

*** IMPORTANT: A final grade of "C" or higher is necessary to satisfy the piano proficiency requirement. For Class Piano II you MUST pass at least one component of every category.**

Technique Scales, cadences, arpeggios and inversions

Alfred Intermediate Musicianship Book pp. 11-25, fluently. Suggested tempo is quarter note = 72.

Houle handouts for scales, arpeggios, cadences & choir warm-up: <http://www.pianofestival.org/prizes/prizeoriginal.htm#techres>

- **Major scales** - easiest to hardest (1st check Piano Marvel Gold; 2nd check play for instructor – ¼ pt. per check; **6** total)
Demonstrate "blocking" (see pp. 8-10 Houle handout), then play two 8^{ves}, hands together, up & down
C# (Db) ___ B ___ F# (Gb) ___ F ___ Eb ___ Ab ___ Bb ___ E ___ A ___ D ___ G ___ C ___
- **Major cadences** - easiest to hardest (1st check Piano Marvel Gold; 2nd check play for instructor – ¼ pt. per check; **6** total)
C ___ G ___ F ___ D ___ A ___ E ___ Bb ___ Eb ___ Ab ___ C# (Db) ___ F# (Gb) ___ B ___
- **Major arpeggios** - easiest to hardest (1st check Piano Marvel Gold; 2nd check play for instructor – ½ pt. per check; **12** total)
Demonstrate "blocking" (see pp. 14-15 Houle handout), then play two 8^{ves}, hands together, up & down
B ___ F# (Gb) ___ C# (Db) ___ Eb ___ Ab ___ D ___ E ___ A ___ C ___ F ___ G ___ Bb ___
- **Inversions** – see Alfred Int. Musicianship pp. 11-25; also do inversions of suspended chords
(1st check Piano Marvel Gold; 2nd check for instructor; ½ pt. per check; **12** total)
C ___ G ___ D ___ A ___ E ___ B ___ F# ___ C# ___ Ab ___ Eb ___ Bb ___ F ___
- **"Choir Warm-Up" drill** (see Houle handout): **3** points ___
- **"Circle of 5ths" drill** (explained in class; refer to p. 42 in Alfred Int. Musicianship Book): **2** points ___

Total technique points (41 maximum) _____

Transposition

- Transpose a random Section One "Music Machine" melody (or another melody chosen by instructor) up a half step (imagine that every note is sharped) ½ pt. ___
- Transpose a random Section One "Music Machine" melody (or another melody chosen by instructor) down a half step (imagine that every note is flatted) ½ pt. ___
- Play Happy Birthday transposed to all Major keys (1 pt. each; **12** total):
C ___ C# ___ D ___ Eb ___ E ___ F ___ F# ___ G ___ Ab ___ A ___ Bb ___ B ___
- Major scales & cadences combined (see Piano Marvel; also in print form on p. 43 Alfred Int. Musicianship)
Major keys (½ pt. each; **6** total): C ___ C# ___ D ___ Eb ___ E ___ F ___ F# ___ G ___ Ab ___ A ___ Bb ___ B ___

Total transposition points (19 max.) _____

Harmonization

- After you've played Happy Birthday, flesh out the harmonies, and introduce at least one extra and/or creative alternative harmony. **1** pt. ___
- Get "Flying Trapeze" melody from instructor. Write in "fake chart" chord symbols and fingerings. Practice hands separately at first. Perform with chord pattern accompaniment
Correct notes **1** pt. ___ Steady tempo **1** pt. ___ Expression (R.H. louder/L.H. very soft) **2** pts. ___
- Harmonize a random Section 1 "Music Machine" Primer level melody
(or equivalent simple melody chosen by instructor, such as those found in Heerema text)
1 pt. ___

Total harmonization points (6 max.) _____

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Sight-reading

- SASR: ½ pt. for each completed test, up to 8 pts. max.

Scores: _____

Total sight-reading points (8 max.) _____

Repertory: Solos, Duets, & Playing from a Lead Sheet

- Play 5 approved solo pieces (Piano Marvel Level 3)

1st check Piano Marvel Gold (1 pt.); 2nd check for instructor (includes expression, 2 pts.) – **15** points total

Name of 3A selection: _____ (1 pt.) (2 pts.)

Name of 3B selection: _____ (1 pt.) (2 pts.)

Name of 3C selection: _____ (1 pt.) (2 pts.)

Name of 3D selection: _____ (1 pt.) (2 pts.)

Name of 3E selection: _____ (1 pt.) (2 pts.)

- Play 2 approved duets with a practice partner

8 points total (breakdown below)

Name of 1st selection: _____

Primo 2 pts. _____ Secondo 2 pts. _____

Name of 2nd selection: _____

Primo 2 pts. _____ Secondo 2 pts. _____

- Play approved "fake chart" selection (Piano Marvel or other selected by instructor)

3 points total

Name of selection: _____

Correct notes (1 pt.) Expression (dynamics, pedals, articulations, etc.) (1 pt.) Steady tempo (1 pt.)

Total repertory points (26 points) _____