

The University of Texas at Tyler

Department of Music

Audition Requirements

In order to be accepted as a music major or minor, the student must audition before a faculty committee. The audition is also used for scholarship consideration. Specific audition requirements are elaborated below and are available on the Music Department website at www.uttyler.edu/music, or by contacting an applied faculty member in the student's primary performing area.

Instrumental Majors: Brass, Woodwind, Strings

The requirements for instrumental music majors' entrance and scholarship auditions follow, including the following instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, and strings.

Entering freshman instrumental majors should know as many major scales as possible by memory. Typically, a scholarship student will know 9-12 scales by memory, in as many octaves as the instrument allows. Articulation is at the student's discretion. Prepared music is also required, consisting of either the All-Region etudes, or a solo of the student's choice equivalent to those found on the "Class 1" Texas State Solo and Ensemble list in the Texas Prescribed Music List (PML). A pianist is not required for admission or scholarship auditions. Sightreading is usually asked of advanced students. After the playing audition, a short interview will take place. With the student's permission, parents may be present at the audition.

Transfer Instrumental Music Majors. Transfer students should provide copies of all transcripts at the audition, plus a list of repertoire and technique studied at the college level.

Admission to the Music Department does not necessarily mean that a student will be admitted to upper-division applied music lessons (3000-level). For transfer admission to upper-division study, the following are required:

1. All major and melodic minor scales performed by memory; minimum pace will be sixteenth notes at quarter note = 60. Articulation is at the student's discretion. Tone quality should be even in all registers and show appropriate vibrato, evenness of intonation across the scale, and control of the extreme registers. Strings must play all scales two octaves minimum. Three are preferable.

2. A major solo (5-7 minutes), major concerto (total length not more than 15 minutes), or single movement from a major concerto (from which the total length of all movements is \geq 15 minutes). Tone quality should be even in all registers and show appropriate vibrato, evenness of intonation across the scale, and control of the extreme registers. Technique should be performed at or very close to the written tempo and should be controlled and smooth. There should be no (or very few) missed notes. Rhythms should be accurate, and a controlled tempo apparent. The basic interpretive aspects of rubato (if appropriate), dynamic control, and phrasing are expected.

3. A short interview with the faculty audition committee.

Transfer students not meeting the above requirements at the audition will be placed into 2000-level private lessons and may take the Upper-Division Jury at the end of the next semester, with instructor permission.

Transfer non-music majors who are seeking a scholarship must meet requirements similar to those listed above for “entering freshmen majors.” However, if the student has fundamental flaws in tone production, knowledge of tuning tendencies, rhythmic accuracy, etc. then it is unlikely a scholarship will be given.

Graduate students must meet all requirements for transfer students, plus the addition of an advanced etude.

Instrumental Majors: Percussion

Entering Freshman Percussion Majors. All percussionists auditioning should be prepared to demonstrate their skills on snare drum and mallet percussion (marimba or xylophone). Timpani is encouraged but not required. There will be a segment of tuning timpani to assess ear training but this will not affect the outcome of the audition. Applicants must prepare one (1) snare drum solo (either concert or rudimental) and one (1) two-mallet keyboard solo. In addition, the applicant may also perform a four-mallet solo as well, if he or she has studied four-mallet playing. The applicant may also include drum set as part of the audition and should display various styles (rock, jazz, Latin, etc.) In addition to the pieces, be prepared to play select rudiments and major scales, as well as sight reading on snare drum and a keyboard instrument.

All percussion instruments will be provided, however, you may choose to bring your own snare drum.

Examples of literature:

Snare Drum

Etudes from Vic Firth’s *The Solo Snare Drummer*

Etudes from Anthony Cirone’s *Portraits in Rhythm*

John Pratt *14 Contest Solos* (any)

Rowloff Productions *Rudimental Cookbook* (medium-advanced to advanced)

Keyboard Percussion

Two-Mallet Solo

Etudes from Morris Goldenberg’s *Modern School for Xylophone,*

Marimba, Vibraphone

Masterpieces for Marimba

Transfer Percussion Majors. Transfer students should provide copies of all transcripts at the audition, plus a list of repertoire and technique studied at the college level.

Admission to the Music Department does not necessarily mean that a student will be admitted to upper-division applied music lessons (3000-level). For transfer admission to upper-division study, the following are required.

Transfer students should be prepared to demonstrate their skills on snare drum, mallet percussion (marimba, xylophone, or vibraphone), and timpani. There will be an assessment of tuning timpani where the applicant will be asked to match a pitch and tune intervals. Applicants must prepare four pieces: one snare drum solo (either rudimental or concert), two mallet solos (two-mallet and four-mallet), and a timpani solo. The applicant may also include drum set as part of the audition and should display various

styles (rock, jazz, Latin, etc.) In addition to the pieces, be prepared to play select rudiments and major scales and all forms of minor scales, as well as sight reading on snare drum and a keyboard instrument.

All percussion instruments will be provided, however, you may choose to bring your own snare drum.

Below are examples of literature a transfer student should be performing upon entrance to their junior year. The prospective student may select other solos that are the equivalent of the following:

Snare Drum

Etudes from Vic Firth's *The Solo Snare Drummer*
Etudes from Anthony Cirone's *Portraits in Rhythm*
John Pratt, *14 Contest Solos* (any)
Warren Benson, *Three Dances*

Mallets

Two-Mallet Solo

J. S Bach, *Violin Concerto in A Minor* (Morris Goldenberg)
G.H. Green, *Ragtime* (any)
Harry Breuer, *Ragtime Selections*

Four-Mallet Solo

Keiko Abe, *Frogs*
Alice Gomez, *Rain Dance, Gitano*
Mitchell Peters, *Yellow After the Rain*
Bill Molenhof, *Vibe Songs*
Ney Rosauero, *Three Preludes*

Timpani

Vic Firth, *The Solo Timpanist*
John Beck, *Concepts for Timpani* or (any solo)
Saul Goodman, *Modern Method for Timpani* (any etude)

Vocal Majors

Freshman level. Students should prepare two contrasting songs from the classical repertoire, sung by memory, one in English and the other in Italian, German or French.

Sophomore level. Students should prepare three contrasting selections from the classical repertoire, sung by memory, one in English, one in Italian, and one in either German or French. An aria may be substituted for one selection.

Junior level. Students should prepare five contrasting selections from the classical repertoire, sung by memory and totaling approximately 12-15 minutes. Two selections should be sung in English, one in Italian, one in German and one in French. One of the selections must be an opera or oratorio aria.

Transfer students should provide copies of all transcripts at the audition, plus a list of repertoire and technique studied at the college level.

Voice Minors and Non-Music-Major Talent Scholarships. Students at all levels should prepare two contrasting songs from the classical repertoire, sung by memory, either two in English **or** one in English and one in Italian, German or French .

Piano Majors

Entering Freshmen. For unqualified admission to the music program and scholarship consideration, entering freshmen should perform three memorized repertoire selections representing a minimum of Levels 7–8 from *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching Literature* by Jane Magrath, including Two- or Three-Part Inventions, French Suites or Preludes/Fugues by J. S. Bach, Classical first or third Sonata movements, Romantic, and Contemporary selections. At least one selection must be from either the Baroque or Classical period. Students should also demonstrate proficiency in three- or four-octave major scales and arpeggios.

Students who cannot perform all selections from memory may still audition for admittance into the program and reduced scholarship consideration. Contact the piano faculty with any questions regarding audition selections.

Transfer Students. Transfer students should provide copies of all transcripts at the audition, plus a list of repertoire and technique studied at the college level.

Transfer students who have completed four semesters of lower-division piano must complete the Upper Division Jury requirements for admittance into 3000-level study. Previous college study must include a Bach Prelude and Fugue, a complete Classical Sonata, and a variety of Romantic and Contemporary selections.

The audition must include three repertoire selections, including a work by J. S. Bach, a first or third Classical Sonata movement and either a Romantic or Contemporary selection. Technique requirements at the audition may include four-octave major, harmonic minor, and melodic minor scales, four-octave major, minor and diminished-seventh arpeggios, and two-octave major, minor and diminished-seventh broken chords.

Transfer students who do not meet the upper division requirements may be accepted into the program at the 2000-level study and still be eligible for scholarship consideration. Contact the piano faculty with any questions regarding audition selections.

Instrumental Majors: Classical Guitar

Entering Freshmen Classical Guitar Majors:

- 1) Prepare one piece from the 19th or 20th centuries. Suggested composers include: Fernando Sor, Matteo Carcassi, Mauro Giuliani, Ferdinando Carulli, Heitor Villa-Lobos, or Leo Brouwer. Etudes are acceptable, as are pieces by other composers.
- 2) Prepare one piece from the Renaissance or Baroque.
- 3) Scales compiled by Andres Segovia – As many of the major and melodic minor patterns as possible, i-m free stroke and rest stroke.
- 4) A brief sight-reading exam will be administered.

A brief interview with the candidate will follow. Parents may be present at the audition and/or interview with the candidate's permission.

Transfer Classical Guitar Majors:

Transfer students should provide copies of all transcripts at the audition, plus a list of repertoire studied at the college level. Admission to the Music Department does not necessarily mean that a student will be admitted to upper division applied music lessons (3000-level). For transfer admission to upper-division study, the following are required:

- 1) Any one of the Twelve Etudes by Heitor Villa-Lobos.
- 2) Any contrapuntal piece from the Baroque or Renaissance.
- 3) One piece of the candidate's choice from the 19th Century. This can be, but is not limited to, an etude by a 19th Century composer.
- 4) All Segovia scale patterns, major and melodic minor with any two-finger combination (i.e. i-m, i-a, a-i, etc). Minimum speed: sixteenth notes, quarter note at 75 bpm.
- 5) From the 120 Right Hand Studies by Mauro Giuliani, organized by Scott Tennant in his technique book *Pumping Nylon*: Groups 5, 7, and 8.
 - a. Be prepared to play one of these three groups as one continuous piece of music – without repeats and with no space between studies. For more information, please email dkyzer@uttyler.edu.
- 6) A brief sight-reading exam will be administered.

A brief interview with the candidate will follow. Parents may be present at the audition and/or interview with the candidate's permission.

Transfer students not meeting the above requirements at the audition will be placed into 2000-level private lessons and may take the Upper-Division Jury at the end of the next semester, with instructor permission. Transfer Students who only meet requirements 1-4, and 6 will still be eligible for scholarship recommendation, but will need to pass portion 5 as part of the final jury for the first semester.