

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
School of Music  
**BRASS AND PERCUSSION AREA**  
Jury and Performance Requirements

**1. General Policies**

- a. Exceptions to the Jury and Performance Requirements must be approved by the Area.
- b. The applied instructor *may* require a jury any semester. In addition, unsatisfactory progress in a student's applied area can result in a jury to determine continuation or discontinuation as a music major on a brass instrument.
- c. All undergraduate applied students must play in a major ensemble. Rare exceptions to this policy may be granted by the applied teacher.

**2. 1000 Level**

- a. Non-music major: Requirements as per applied instructor
- b. Music major on a secondary instrument: Requirements as per applied instructor
- c. Music major on Provisional status: Students must take a jury at the end of each semester of study while on provisional status. The jury will be 10 minutes in length and will consist of a prepared solo or etude. At this jury the student's standing in the music curriculum will be assessed.

**3. 2000-H Level (Transfer Students)**

- a. Upon admission to WMU, all transfer students will be placed at the 2000-H level in performance regardless of the number of credit hours accumulated. During their first semester of study, they will be expected to complete the scale and arpeggio requirements listed under 4.a.i. below. After one semester of study (or at a later date if the transfer is made prior to the junior year), transfer students must take the Sophomore Hearing described under 5.b. below, after which the remaining performance requirements will be determined.

**4. 2000 Level (First and Second Semesters)**

- a. Memorization
  - i. Scales and Arpeggios
    1. During their first year of study, students are required to perform from memory scale and arpeggio requirements in established patterns and tempos, as specified by their applied instructor (see your instructor for a copy).
    2. If a student, in the opinion of the applied teacher, is not satisfactorily meeting this requirement, the teacher will schedule the student for a special hearing with at least three area faculty. At this hearing, the requirement will be evaluated and the student's standing in the music curriculum assessed.
    3. Students who do not pass the scale requirement will receive a semester grade of E.

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- ii. Etudes
  - 1. Students are required to play from memory either two etudes of contrasting styles or one solo for their instructor during the second semester of study.
  - 2. See item 4.a.1.2 above.
- b. Jury
  - i. Before the end of the second semester of study, a 10-minute jury will be taken. This jury will consist of:
    - ii. A solo, with accompaniment when appropriate. Memorization is optional.
  - iii. Sight-reading
- c. Written evaluations of this jury will be made available to the student.
- d. The Freshman Hearing must be passed with a grade of a C or better. Students who do not pass the Freshman Hearing on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue in the program.

### 5. 2000 Level (Third and Fourth Semesters)

- a. Memorization
  - i. Students are required to play from memory either two etudes of contrasting style or one solo for their instructor during both semesters of study.
  - ii. See item 4.a.1.2 above.
- b. Sophomore Hearing
  - i. Before the end of the fourth semester of applied music study, a 15-minute jury will be taken. This jury will consist of:
    - 1. A solo (minimum length of 6 minutes) with accompaniment when appropriate. Memorization is optional.
    - 2. An etude selected by the student and performed from memory. (This etude is not required if the solo is performed from memory.)
    - 3. Sight-reading.

Written evaluations of this jury will be made available to the student.

- c. Students must complete a minimum of four semesters at the 2000 level, two semesters of which must occur after passing the Freshman Hearing.
- d. Students must pass the Sophomore Hearing with a grade of a C or better before they will be

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permitted to enroll for 3000 level performance. Students who do not pass the Sophomore Hearing on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue in the program.

- e. Students who have made a decision to major in Performance should so indicate at this jury. Faculty reservations may be expressed to the music advisor. To qualify for performance major status, students must achieve a 3.25 grade point average in applied music in the first three semesters of study and pass the performance major audition. Since a transfer student comes to WMU without a grade point average, a student transferring in at the 2000-H level may request approval for a major in Performance at the time of the Sophomore Hearing.

#### **6. 3000 Level (First and Second Semesters)**

- a. Students with a Performance major will present a Junior Recital, approved by and acceptable to the area faculty. This recital must contain a minimum of 25 minutes of music\*
- b. Non-performance majors will play a major work on an area recital. This performance must be evaluated as acceptable by a panel of at least three area faculty members. (The presentation of an approved Junior Recital may be substituted for this requirement.) Written evaluations of the performance will be made available to the student by the members of the panel.

#### **7. 3000 Level (Third and Fourth Semesters)**

- a. Students with a Performance major will present a senior recital, approved by and acceptable to the area faculty. This recital must contain a minimum of 45 minutes of music.\*
- b. In the final semester of study, but not during the semester of practice teaching, or in the case of Performance majors not during the semester in which the Senior Recital is presented, the student must perform a Senior Hearing. The Senior Hearing, a 25-minute jury examination, will be scheduled at least four weeks prior to the end of the semester. Examination materials will consist of:
  - i. One solo (with accompaniment) chosen by the student as a work representative of the student's current performing ability, and prepared without supervision of the applied instructor. The work should be chosen early in the semester, and the student will be completely responsible for its preparation. Memorization is optional. Minimum length, 8 minutes.
  - ii. One study or solo, contrasting in style to 7.b.i. (above), chosen by the applied instructor and given to the student 14 days before the examination. The student will be completely responsible for the preparation and performance of this work. Minimum length, 5 minutes.
  - iii. The student will be prepared to give an oral presentation during the hearing regarding the composers and compositions in 7.b.i. and 7.b.ii. (above). The presentation should include, but not necessarily be limited to, biographical information on the composers as well as their stylistic characteristics which might relate to the compositions performed.
  - iv. The student will furnish each faculty member of the jury with a copy of both works prior to the hearing.

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- v. The student's Senior Hearing grade (part of MUS-3000) will be the average of those grades given by the faculty on the jury. A grade of a C or better must be earned in order for the students to receive performance clearance for graduation.

**8. 5000 Level**

- a. Jury and performance requirement as per applied instructor.

**9. 6000 Level**

- a. Students must present a jury during each semester of study.
- b. Students must present a graduate recital, approved by and acceptable to the area faculty. The recital must contain a minimum of 45 minutes of music, with no more than 1/3 being chamber music (i.e. more than two instruments of equal importance). Additionally, the recital must include music from a variety of styles (students who wish to present a recital should begin arrangements in the Concerts Office. Here they will receive the appropriate form which includes step-by-step instruction of procedures).
  - i. Program notes will be required for each graduate recital. The notes must be available for the committee's perusal at the pre-recital hearing, at which time the committee may recommend content or editorial changes. The completed notes must be printed and available at the recital.