

Towson University – Department of Music

Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

Discipline: JAZZ/COMMERCIAL TRUMPET

General Information:

- The stated proficiencies below apply to all students taking lessons in the particular discipline.
- Level of difficulty for specific repertoire will be adjusted based upon the student's degree program.
- These proficiencies are the minimums for a passing grade in the discipline.
- Any student wishing to take 300-level applied lessons must successfully pass an upper division jury demonstrating the proficiencies as articulated below.

Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson

Each semester the student will be required to memorize and improvise on assigned composition and demonstrate improvement with sight reading.

Freshman Level

- Major scales and modes of Major
- Blues scale and its possible applications
- Whole Tone scale
- Common 7th chords and arpeggios
- Cycle of 5ths and 1, 2, 3, 5 patterns
- Selected etudes from Concone, Kopprasch Book 1

Sophomore Level

- Melodic Minor scales – ascending form only
- Harmonic Minor scales

- Minor Pentatonic scales – ½-whole diminished scales
- Improvising on Rhythm Changes and Blues progressions
- Selected etudes from Kopprasch Book 2

Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

Junior Level

- Modes of Melodic Minor
- Modes of Harmonic Minor
- Whole Tone starting on any pitch
- Selected etudes from Goldman *Practical Studies* and Charlier *36 Etudes Transcendantes*
- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Senior Level

- Symmetrical augmented
- Coltrane Harmony
- Selected etudes from Smith *Top Tones for Trumpet* and Charlier *36 Etudes Transcendante*
- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson

Each semester the student will be required to memorize and improvise on assigned compositions, transcribe at least one solo from a recording; and demonstrate improvement with sight reading.

Freshman Level

- Major scales and modes of major 2 octaves where possible
- Blues scale and its possible applications
- Whole Tone
- Common 7th chords and arpeggios
- Cycle of 5ths and 1, 2, 3, 5 patterns

- Selected etudes from Concone, Kopprasch Book 1
- Transposition – up a major 2nd

Sophomore Level

- Melodic Minor scales – ascending form only
- Harmonic Minor scales
- Minor Pentatonic scales – 2 octaves where possible
- 1/2-whole diminished scales
- Improvising on Rhythm Changes progression and Blues progressions
- Selected etudes from Concone, Bach Cello Suites (Robert King), Kopprasch Book 2

Upper Division Jury (end of 2nd semester sophomore lessons)

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years.

Junior Level

- Modes of Melodic minor
- Modes of Harmonic Minor
- Coltrane Harmony
- Selected etudes from Smith *Top Tones for Trumpet*, Charlier *36 Etudes Transcendantes*
- Minor ii, V, I progressions
- Listening and survey of lead trumpet players and trumpet sections
- Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Senior Level

- Symmetrical augmented starting on any pitch
- 4 note structures and arpeggios
- Expanded scale practice
- 5 note structures and arpeggios
- Selected etudes from Thomas Stevens, Allen Vizzutti and Marcel Bitsch
- Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)

