

Towson University – Department of Music

Proficiency Levels for Applied Lessons

Discipline: PERCUSSION

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.
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Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson

Freshman Level

- Working concept of tone production
- Understanding of grip and techniques
- Kraus scale forms in major keys
- Rhythmic and melodic reading and improvisation
- Mastery of repertoire for snare drum and 2-mallet keyboard

Sophomore Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- Advanced concept of tone production
- Mastery of 13 Essential Rudiments
- Kraus scale forms in minor keys
- All major and minor scales/arpeggios

- Mastery of repertoire for snare drum and keyboard
- Timpani tuning, tone production and lift strokes

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

- Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years

Junior Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- 4-mallet exercises and repertoire
- Timpani repertoire

Senior Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- Vibraphone and Multi-percussion repertoire
- Accessory percussion
- Senior Recital (required based upon degree program)

Proficiencies for a 2-credit lesson

Freshman Level

- Working concept of tone production
- Understanding of grip and techniques
- Kraus scale forms in major and minor keys
- Rhythmic and melodic reading and improvisation
- Mastery of repertoire for snare drum and 2-mallet keyboard
- Timpani tuning, tone production and lift strokes

Sophomore Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- Advanced concept of tone production

- Mastery of 40 PAS Rudiments
- All major and minor scales/arpeggios
- 4-mallet exercises and repertoire
- Mastery of repertoire for snare drum, keyboard and timpani

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

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

Junior Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- Timpani, vibraphone and multi-percussion repertoire
- Accessory percussion
- Junior recital (required based on degree program)

Senior Level

- Above proficiencies plus:
- Orchestral excerpts
- Senior recital (required based upon degree program)