

GUIDELINES FOR UPPER LEVEL QUALIFICATION (BARRIER) EXAM IN PIANO
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Approved by the keyboard faculty on August 10, 2021

The upper level qualification (barrier) exam in piano will take place in the jury which concludes the fourth semester of study. This exam consists of two parts – memorized repertoire and technique. Each section will be graded on the following basis:

A - excellent, B - above average, C - average, D - below average, and F - fail.

A student must pass both sections of the exam with a grade of “C” or better to qualify for upper level applied studio lessons. If a student receives a “D” or lower in any section of the exam, the student must remain in lower level applied studio lessons and may re-take the barrier exam in a subsequent semester.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Arts

1. memorized repertoire representing a minimum of two stylistic periods (10 – 15mins)
2. Technique:
 - *Hands together, 4 octave parallel 8th note scales at tempo of Quarter note=100 (All keys Major and Harmonic Minor)
 - *Hands together, 4 octave parallel 8th note triadic arpeggios at tempo of 8th note=132 & 8th note Dominant 7th & Fully Diminished 7th arpeggios at tempo of 8th note=120 (All keys Major and minor)
 - *Hands together, 2 octave parallel quarter note four note blocked chords at tempo of Quarter note=60 (All keys Major and minor)

Bachelor of Music in Performance

1. memorized repertoire representing a minimum of three stylistic periods (20 – 25mins)
2. Technique:
 - *Hands together, 4 octave parallel 16th note scales at tempo of Quarter note=100 (All keys Major and Harmonic Minor)
 - *Hands together, 4 octave parallel triplet 8th note triadic arpeggios at tempo of Quarter note=80 & 16th note Dominant 7th & Fully Diminished 7th arpeggios at tempo of Quarter note=60 (All keys Major and minor)
 - *Hands together, 2 octave parallel quarter note four note blocked chords at tempo of Quarter note=80 (All keys Major and minor)