

At Baylor University, piano study for music majors serves two functions:
-to expose the student to practical skills they may require in the musical field
-to reinforce basic, necessary theoretical and musicianship skills

The School of Music offers a common curriculum for music majors in the first three semesters of Class Piano, designated as Levels Is-IIIs. So that students gain experience in practical activities specific to their degree plans, contents for Level IVs and above vary according to major. Instruction for Level IVs and above is by private lesson. In order to move between levels, students are required to earn a semester grade of C or better. Students must also earn a grade of C or better in their final semester of piano instruction in order to complete the requirement.

All freshmen and transfer students entering a music degree program will take a piano placement test during orientation. At the placement, each student's level of competency (in repertoire, technique, reading, and skill activities) will be assessed and (s)he will be placed at the appropriate level within the curriculum. Students with preexisting keyboard skills may test out of one or more semesters of piano instruction.

The following lists the final piano level required for each degree program. Any student may continue to study piano past the requirement for secondary instrument or elective credit.

B.M. in Wind, String, or Percussion Performance–Level IIs
B.M.E. in Instrumental Music; Wind, String, or Percussion Concentration–Level IIs
B.M.E. in Choral Music; Vocal or Organ Concentration–Level IVs
B.M. in Organ Performance–Level IVs
B.M. in Vocal Performance–Level IVs
B.M. in Church Music; Vocal, Instrumental, or Organ Concentration–Level IVs
B.M. in Composition–Level IVs
B.M. in Music History and Literature–Level VIIIs
B.M. in Music Theory–Level VIIIs
B.A. in Music; Applied or Academic Track–Level IIIs

Specific requirements for each level are detailed below. Any additional questions may be addressed to Dr. Terry Lynn Hudson, Director of Secondary Piano (Terry_Hudson@baylor.edu).

CLASS PIANO CURRICULUM, LEVELS Is – IIIs

Level Is:

Repertoire	*5-8 pieces, not memorized, early to mid-elementary level
Technique	*All major scales and arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands separately *All major chords and inversions, hands separately
Harmonization	*Prepared examples in major keys using I/IV/V7 chords *Prepared examples in major keys using primary chords in lead sheet notation
Transposition	*Prepared melodies in major keys
Sight reading	*Melodies, simple two-hand textures

Level IIs:**Repertoire**

*5-8 pieces, not memorized, late elementary level

Technique

*All major and white-key harmonic minor scales and arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands separately

*All major and white-key minor chords and inversions, hands separately

Harmonization

*Prepared examples in major and minor keys using I/IV/V7 chords

*Prepared examples in major and minor keys using primary chords in lead sheet notation

Transposition

*Prepared melodies in major and minor keys

Sight reading

*Various simple textures

Score reading

*Prepared examples involving two lines for non-transposing parts

Improvisation

*Melodic improvisation over a given chord progression

Level IIs is the terminal required level for students in the following programs: B.M. in Wind, String, or Percussion Performance, B.M.E. in Instrumental Music; Wind, String, or Percussion Concentration.

Level IIIs:**Repertoire**

*4 pieces, not memorized, early intermediate level

Technique

*All major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands separately

*All major and white-key minor cadences and chords/inversions, hands separately

Harmonization

*At-sight examples in major keys using I/IV/V7 chords

*Prepared lead sheet examples with a wider range of harmonies (I/i, IV/iv, V7, ii, vi)

Transposition

*At-sight melodies in major and minor keys

*Prepared melodies with chordal accompaniment

Prepared reading

*4-voice chorale textures

Score reading

*Prepared examples involving two non-transposing lines from a 4-part open score

Level IIIs is the terminal required level for students in the B.A. program.

**APPLIED PIANO CURRICULUM FOR NON-PIANO MAJORS,
LEVEL IVs*****BME Choral:*****Repertoire**

*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level

*1 patriotic song with introduction, singing tempo

Technique

*Pentascle vocal warm-ups cycling through all major keys, sung and played/conducted and played

Harmonization

*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords

*Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments

*Prepared examples using two-hand accompaniments while singing

Sight reading	*Grade school accompaniments
Score reading	*Prepared examples involving three lines from an SATB score

Level IVs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

BM Church Music:

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level *1 patriotic song with introduction, singing tempo
Technique	*Pentascle vocal warm-ups cycling through all major keys, sung and played/conducted and played
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords *Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments *Prepared worship songs using two-hand accompaniments
Sight reading	*4-voice chorale textures
Score reading	*Prepared examples involving three lines from an SATB score

Level IVs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

BM Voice:

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level *1 easy art song accompaniment, performed with soloist
Technique	*Vocal warm-ups cycling through all major keys, sung and played. At least one example will encompass a vocal range of an octave or more.
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords *Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments
Transposition	*Prepared excerpts from art songs, vocal line only
Sight reading	*Excerpts from art songs, vocal line only
Score reading	*Prepared examples involving three lines from an SATB score

Level IVs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

BM Composition:

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level
Technique	*All major scales and triad arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands together
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords *Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments
Transposition	*At-sight melodies in major and minor keys, demonstrating knowledge of standard instrumental transpositions
Sight reading	*4-voice chorale textures
Score reading	*Prepared examples involving three lines from choral and instrumental scores

Level IVs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

BM Organ:

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level minimum
Technique	*All major and harmonic minor scales and triad arpeggios, 4 octaves, hands together
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords with broken chord accompaniments
	*Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments
Transposition	*Prepared hymns transposed up or down no more than a second
Sight reading	*4-voice chorale textures
Score reading	*Prepared choral scores, SATB

Level IVs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

BM Music Theory/Music History:

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level
Technique	*All major scales and triad arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands together
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords
	*Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments
Transposition	*At-sight melodies in major and minor keys, demonstrating knowledge of standard instrumental transpositions
Sight reading	*4-voice chorale textures
Score reading	*Prepared examples involving three lines from choral and instrumental scores

**APPLIED PIANO CURRICULUM FOR NON-PIANO MAJORS,
LEVEL Vs – VIIs*****BM Music Theory and Music History, Level Vs***

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level
	*1 vocal accompaniment, performed with soloist
Technique	*All major and harmonic minor scales and triad arpeggios, two octaves minimum, hands together
Harmonization	*Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments
Score reading	*Two non-transposing lines from an open score performed at sight

This course may be taken for one or two credits.

BM Music Theory and Music History, Level VIs

Repertoire	*2 pieces, not memorized, intermediate level
Technique	*All major, harmonic minor, and melodic minor scales and triad arpeggios, two octaves minimum, hands together
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I/IV/V7 chords with broken chord accompaniments

Transposition	*Prepared hymns transposed up or down no more than a second
Sight reading	*A piano solo of early intermediate difficulty
Score reading	*Prepared choral scores, SATB

This course may be taken for one or two credits.

BM Music Theory, Level VIIIs

Repertoire	*2 pieces, late intermediate level, memorization optional *1 instrumental accompaniment, performed with soloist
Technique	*All major, harmonic minor, and melodic minor scales and triad arpeggios, four octaves, hands together
Harmonization	*Prepared lead sheet examples with broken chord accompaniments

This course may be taken for one or two credits.

BM Music History, Level VIIIs

Repertoire	*3 pieces, late intermediate level, memorization optional *1 instrumental accompaniment, performed with soloist
Technique	*All major, harmonic minor, and melodic minor scales and triad arpeggios, four octaves, hands together

This course may be taken for one or two credits.

BM Music Theory, Level VIIIs

Repertoire	*2 pieces, late intermediate level, memorization optional
Technique	*All diminished seventh arpeggios in root position, 4 octaves, hands together
Harmonization	*At-sight examples using I, IV, V7, V7/V, and V7/IV chords with broken chord accompaniments
Sight reading	*A piano solo of intermediate difficulty
Score reading	*Prepared 3-part instrumental scores, including one transposing part

Level VIIIs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

This course may be taken for one or two credits.

BM Music History, Level VIIIs

Repertoire	*3 pieces, late intermediate level, memorization optional
Technique	*All diminished seventh arpeggios in root position, 4 octaves, hands together
Sight reading	*A piano solo of intermediate difficulty

Level VIIIs is the terminal required level for students in this degree program.

This course may be taken for one or two credits.