

Graduate Audition Guidelines – Keyboards – Piano – Western Illinois University

I. For General Admission

- A. Two pieces from contrasting style periods (memorization required)
- B. Scales and Arpeggios, 2 octaves, hands together
- C. Sight-Reading

II. For Piano Pedagogy

- A. Three pieces from contrasting style periods (memorization required)
- B. Scales and Arpeggios, 4 octaves, hands together
- C. Sight-Reading

III. For Piano Performance

- A. Choose three from the following (memorization required):
 - J.S. Bach – any Prelude and Fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, or other major work
 - Classical – any sonata by Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart or Schubert
 - Romantic – any substantial work by Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, Schumann or Mendelssohn
 - 20th/21st century – any major work by Bartók, Ginastera, Schönberg, Liebermann, Prokofiev, etc.
- B. One virtuosic etude by Chopin, Liszt, Moscheles, Bartok, Debussy, Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin or Stravinsky
- C. Sight-Reading

IV. For Jazz Piano Performance

- A. Three tunes in different styles (melody and improvisation)
 - 1. Ballad (solo piano)
Some rubato playing is acceptable, but the majority of the tune should be played in time, at ballad tempo. Acceptable tunes: Body and Soul, My One and Only Love, What's New, Chelsea Bridge, Prelude To A Kiss, etc.
 - 2. Swing tune (Medium tempo, bass line accompaniment will be provided)
Acceptable tunes: On Green Dolphin Street, Stella By Starlight, Stablemates, All The Things You Are, Donna Lee, Confirmation, etc.
 - 3. Latin (Bossa Nova, Afro-Cuban, etc. Medium tempo, bass line accompaniment will be provided)
Acceptable tunes: How Insensitive, Gentle Rain, Black Orpheus, Invitation, or other tunes usually done in a swing style, but adapted by the applicant to a Latin style.
- B. Jazz Fundamentals
 - 1. Students will be asked to play scales typical for jazz improvisation. Among these could be any of the modes of the Major or Melodic Minor Scale (Dorian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Lydian Dominant, Altered, etc.) as well as Diminished Scales. Minimum acceptable knowledge: Major, Dorian, and Mixolydian Scales.
 - 2. Students will be asked to play 7th and 9th chords basic to jazz improvisation. Minimum

acceptable knowledge: Major 7th and 9th chords, Minor 7th and 9th chords, Dominant 7th and 9th chords, Diminished 7th chords, and Half-Diminished 7th and 9th chords.

C. Sight-Reading

1. Representative big band literature in different styles.
2. Lead sheet interpretation.