



# Graduate Audition Requirements

School of Music  
Western Illinois University

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Master of Music applicants with areas of specialization in Choral or Instrumental Conducting, Composition, Jazz Composition, Music Education, Musicology, and Piano Pedagogy can find entrance requirements in the [School of Music Graduate Student Handbook](#).

## Flute

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Mozart: Concerto in G Major or D Major, K. 313 or K. 314 (Movements I and II)
- A 19th- or 20th-century French work from *Flute Music by French Composers* or equivalent
- An unaccompanied 20th- or 21st-century work
- Five orchestral excerpts from Baxtresser, *Orchestral Excerpts for Flute*, or equivalent
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- J. S. Bach: two contrasting movements from any sonata or Partita in A Minor, BWV 1013
- Mozart: Concerto in G Major or D Major, K. 313 or K. 314 (Movements I and II)
- Two contrasting movements from a 20th- or 21st-century concerto, such as Ibert, Nielsen, or Rouse
- Three orchestral excerpts from Baxtresser, *Orchestral Excerpts for Flute*, or equivalent
- Sight reading

## Oboe

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Choose two from the following:
  - Saint-Saëns or Poulenc sonata (Movement I)
  - Mozart or Haydn concerto (Movement III)
  - Any Telemann or Vivaldi concerto or sonata (Movements I and II)
  - Britten Six Metamorphoses (any three movements)
- Choose two of the following orchestral excerpts (all excerpts may be found in the Rothwell books, *Difficult Passages*, published by Boosey and Hawkes):
  - Brahms: Violin Concerto (slow movement excerpt)
  - Rossini: *La Scala di Seta* (slow and fast excerpts)
  - Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 (excerpts from Movements III and IV)
  - Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1 (excerpts from Movements III and IV)
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Choose three from the following:
  - Saint-Saëns or Poulenc sonata (Movement I)
  - Mozart or Haydn concerto (Movement III)
  - Any Telemann or Vivaldi concerto or sonata (Movements I and II)
  - Britten Six Metamorphoses (any three movements)
- Choose three of the orchestral excerpts listed in the MM Audition Requirements above
- Sight reading

## Clarinet

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Choose two movements from one of the following:
  - Mozart: Concerto in A Major, K. 622
  - Weber: Concerto No. 1 in F Minor, Op. 73, or Concerto No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 74
- Choose one of the following:
  - Copland: Concerto
  - Debussy: Première Rhapsodie
- Choose two of the following orchestral excerpts:
  - Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 (Movements I and II)
  - Brahms: Symphony No. 3 (Movements I and II)
  - Rimsky-Korsakov: *Capriccio Espagnol* (Movements I and III)
  - Prokofiev: *Peter and the Wolf*
  - Mendelssohn: Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Choose one of the following complete concertos:
  - Mozart: Concerto in A Major, K. 622
  - Weber: Concerto No. 1 in F Minor, Op. 73, or Concerto No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 74
- Choose one of the following:
  - Copland: Concerto
  - Debussy: Première Rhapsodie
- Choose four of the orchestral excerpts listed in the MM Audition Requirements above
- Sight reading

## Saxophone

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Choose two pieces, one accompanied and one unaccompanied, from the following:
  - Denisov: Sonata for Alto Saxophone
  - Desenclos: *Prélude, Cadence et Finale*
  - Lennon: *Distances Within Me*
  - Berio: Sequenza IXb
  - Robert: Cadenza
  - Tower: *Wings*
- Sight Reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- In addition to the MM Audition Requirements listed above, choose two of the following:
  - Albright: Sonata
  - Bolcom: *Lilith*
  - Dahl: Concerto
  - Husa: Concerto

## **Bassoon**

### **Master of Music Audition Requirements**

- One concert etude from Ludwig Milde, *50 Concert Studies, Books 1 and 2* (one selection from the 50 etudes)
- Mozart: Concerto in B-flat Major, K. 191/186e (Movements I and II with cadenzas)
- One contrasting solo
- Four contrasting orchestral excerpts
- Sight reading

### **Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements**

- One concert etude from Nazzareno Gatti, *22 Grandi Esercizi*
- Mozart: Concerto in B-flat Major, K. 191/186e (Movements I and II with cadenzas)
- Weber: Concerto for Bassoon in F Major, Op. 75 (Movements I and II)
- Four contrasting orchestral excerpts
- Sight reading

## Horn

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- The first movement of a concerto chosen from the following:
  - Mozart: Concerto No. 2 or No. 4
  - R. Strauss: Concerto No. 1
- One first movement of a sonata chosen from the following:
  - Beethoven: Horn Sonata
  - Hindemith: Horn Sonata
  - Heiden: Horn Sonata
- One unaccompanied solo chosen from the following:
  - Berge: *Horn Lolk*
  - Krol: *Laudatio*
  - Persichetti: *Parable*
- Three orchestral excerpts from the following list (all excerpts can be found on [hornexcerpts.org](http://hornexcerpts.org)):
  - Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, Op. 125
    - Horn 4, III. Adagio molto e cantabile m. 83-121
  - Brahms: Symphony No. 3, Op. 90
    - Horn 1, III. Poco Allegretto m. 98-110 (F - 12 after F)
  - Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5, Op. 47
    - Horn 1, Moderato (17 - 21)
  - Strauss: Till Eulenspiegel, Op. 28
    - Horn 1, Gemächlich (beginning - 1)
  - Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5, Op. 64
    - Horn 1, II. Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza m. 9-28 (7 before A - 8 after A)
  - Wagner: Götterdämmerung (short call)
    - Horn 1, Act 1: Siegfried's Rhine Journey, Vivace
- Sight Reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- One complete concerto chosen from the following:
  - Mozart: Concerto No. 2 or No. 4
  - R. Strauss: Concerto No. 1
- One complete sonata chosen from the following:
  - Beethoven: Horn Sonata
  - Hindemith: Horn Sonata
  - Heiden: Horn Sonata
- One unaccompanied solo chosen from the following:
  - Hill: *Jazz Soliloquies* (one movement)
  - Messiaen: *Appel Interstellaire*
- Five of the orchestral excerpts listed in the MM Audition Requirements above
- Sight Reading

## Trumpet

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- One movement of a Baroque concerto performed on the piccolo trumpet by Telemann, Torelli, Handel, or equivalent
- One movement of a standard classical concerto by Haydn, Hummel, or Neruda
- A solo piece or movement of a sonata or concerto by Hindemith, Kennan, Boehme, Arutunian, Bozza, or equivalent
- Graduate assistantship audition includes reading with the faculty brass quintet
- Three standard orchestral excerpts
  - Respighi: *Pines of Rome*, offstage
  - Beethoven: Leonore Overture No. 3
  - Mussorgsky: *Pictures at an Exhibition*, Promenade
  - Mahler: Symphony 5, opening
  - Equivalent excerpt
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Baroque concerto on piccolo trumpet by Telemann, Torelli, L. Mozart, Tartini, or equivalent
- Classical concerto by Haydn or Hummel
- One 19th- or 20th-century concerto or sonata by Boehme, Hindemith, Stevens, Kennan, Arutunian, or equivalent
- Representative orchestral excerpts
  - Respighi, *Pines of Rome*, offstage
  - Mahler: Symphony 5, opening
  - Ravel: Piano Concerto
  - Stravinsky: *Petrouchka*, Ballerina's Dance and Waltz
  - Equivalent excerpt
- Sight reading

## Tenor Trombone

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- One major concerto chosen from among following:
  - L. Grondahl: Concerto
  - F. David: Concertino
  - H. Tomasi: Concerto
- One Sonata chosen from the following:
  - E. Ewazen: Sonata
  - J. Casterede: Sonatine
  - P. Hindemith: Sonate
- One lyrical etude from Bordogni/Rochut: *Melodious Etudes for Trombone*
- One technical etude chosen from the following:
  - Tyrell: *40 Progressive Etudes*
  - Blazhevich: *Sequences*
  - Arban: *Characteristic Studies*
- Orchestral excerpts from the standard repertoire
- Sight Reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Same as Master of Music Audition Requirements listed above

## Bass Trombone

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- One major concerto chosen from among following:
  - Lebedev: Concerto in One Movement
  - E. Ewazen: Concerto
  - Thom Ritter George: Concerto
- One sonata chosen from the following:
  - A. Wilder: Sonata
  - H. Stevens: Sonatina
  - P. McCarty: Sonata
- One lyrical etude from Bordogni: *Vocalises* (any edition)
- One technical etude chosen from the following:
  - T. Pederson: *Advanced Etudes for Bass Trombone*
  - K. Kahila: *Semester of Studies for Bass Trombone*
  - Gillis: *70 Studies*
- Orchestral excerpts from the standard repertoire
- Sight Reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Same as Master of Music Audition Requirements listed above

## Tuba

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- All graduate applicants should be able to demonstrate either the CC or BB-flat tuba and should be capable of playing at least one work of reduced significance with either the F or E-flat tuba (more significant work would be preferred).
- Prepare at least two contrasting solos. The list below contains suggestions and are characteristic of the necessary level of significance:
  - Broughton: Sonata (Concerto) (Masters Music Publications)
  - Hindemith: Sonate (European American- Schott)
  - Vaughan Williams: Tuba Concerto in f (Oxford)
- Select two orchestral excerpts from the list below:
  - Berlioz: *Symphonie Fantastique*: Ronde du Sabbat
  - Brahms: Symphony No. 2, Movement IV
  - Mahler: Symphony No. 1, Movement III or Symphony No. 5, Finale
  - Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5, Movement I
  - Wagner: Prelude to *Die Meistersinger*
- Sight Reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- All applicants should be able to demonstrate both the CC and F tubas at the advanced level. BB flat tuba may be used in place of the CC.
- Prepare two contrasting solos from the following:
  - Bozza: Concertino (Alphonse Leduc)
  - Ewazen: Concerto for Tuba (Bass Trombone) (Southern Music Company)
  - Grant: Three Furies (Grantwood Music Press)
  - Madsen: Sonata for (F) Tuba and Piano, Op. 34 (Musikk-Huset A/S)
  - Vaughan Williams: Concerto in f (Oxford)
  - Williams (John): Tuba Concerto, Movement III (Hal Leonard)
- Select two orchestral excerpts from the list below:
  - Berlioz: *Benvenuto Cellini*
  - Bruckner: Symphony No. 4, Movement IV
  - Mahler: Symphony No. 1, Movement III (complete)
  - Mahler: Symphony No. 5, Finale
  - Respighi: *Fountains of Rome*
  - Stravinsky: *Petrouchka*, "Peasant with Bear"
  - Wagner: *Ride of the Valkyries*
- Sight Reading



## Percussion

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Snare Drum
  - One solo work of your choice that exhibits both concert and rudimental drumming techniques. *Prim* by Asbell Masson is a representative example of a piece that features both styles.
- Keyboard Percussion
  - One four-mallet marimba solo chosen from the following:
    - Muramatsu: *Land*
    - Smadbeck: *Virginia Tate*
    - Abe: *Variations on a Japanese Children's Song*
    - Equivalent work
- Timpani
  - One solo work
  - 2 of the following three movements from Carter, *Eight Pieces for Four Timpani*, or equivalent:
    - March
    - Canaries
    - Moto Perpetuo
- Drumset and Hand Drums are optional, but strongly encouraged

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Snare Drum
  - One Delécluse Etude from *Douze Études*
  - One solo work of your choice
  - Two standard orchestral snare drum excerpts
- Keyboard Percussion
  - One four-mallet marimba solo
  - One four-mallet vibraphone solo
  - Two standard orchestral xylophone or glockenspiel excerpts
- Timpani
  - One timpani solo
  - Three standard orchestral timpani excerpts
- Multiple Percussion
  - One multiple percussion solo
- Accessory Percussion
  - One standard orchestral excerpt on tambourine, triangle, and crash cymbals
  - Drumset and Hand Drums are optional, but strongly encouraged

## Piano

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Choose three works from the following:
  - Bach: Prelude and Fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, or other major Baroque work
  - A complete Classical sonata or comparable major work by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert
  - A substantial Romantic work from the 19th century
  - A work from the 20th or 21st century
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Choose three works from the following:
  - Bach: Prelude and Fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, or other major Baroque work
  - A complete Classical sonata or comparable major work by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert
  - A substantial Romantic work from the 19th century
  - A work from the 20th or 21st century
- One etude by Chopin, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, Debussy, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Bartók, or Ligeti
- Sight reading

## Voice

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- 5-6 pieces, including 1 each in French, German, Italian, English; should include one oratorio or operatic aria (not more than one)
- Students should submit programs for all undergraduate performance recitals

### Post Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- 40-50 minutes of memorized music that represents Italian song, German Lied, French melodie, and 20th- or 21st-century song in English
- One operatic and one oratorio aria (not more than one each)
- Applicants may include works to show proficiency in other languages such as Spanish, Russian, or Czech, but these may not substitute for French, German, Italian, and English requirements.

## Violin

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Applicants should prepare two solo works. One of them should be slow, with sustained, melodic lines, and the other should be fast and technically challenging. Choose from:
  - A movement of a concerto by Mozart, Viotti, Bruch, Mendelssohn, or Saint-Saëns
  - A movement from an unaccompanied Bach sonata or partita
  - A movement from a Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or modern sonata
- Sight reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Choose three works from the following:
  - J.S. Bach: one movement from the Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin
  - Classical: a concerto by Mozart or Beethoven
  - Romantic: a substantial work by Brahms, Paganini, Wieniawski, Mendelssohn, Saint-Saëns, or other 19th-century composer
  - 20th/21st Century: any major work by Bartók, Prokofiev, Khachaturian, Shostakovich, or other composer
- One caprice by Wieniawski or Paganini
- Sight-reading

## Viola

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Prelude from any of the Bach solo suites
- One of the following complete sonatas or major works:
  - Brahms: Op. 120, Nos. 1-2
  - Schubert: *Arpeggione*
  - Schumann: *Märchenbilder*
  - Rebecca Clarke: *Viola Sonata*
  - Comparable work
- The first movement of one of the following concertos:
  - David
  - Bartók
  - Walton
  - Forsyth
  - Comparable work
- A virtuosic piece of the applicant's choice
- Sight-reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- A complete solo Bach suite or one of the Suites for Solo Viola, Op. 131, by Max Reger
- A complete sonata by Schubert, Brahms, Hindemith, or a comparable work
- A complete concerto by Stamitz, Bartók, Hindemith, Walton, or a comparable work

## Cello

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- A sonata by Beethoven, Brahms, Franck, Debussy or comparable work
- One of the following complete concertos:
  - Dvorak
  - Schumann
  - Haydn D major
  - Other comparable work
- Sight-reading

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Same as the Master of Music Audition Requirements listed above, with the addition of three contrasting movements of a suite by J. S. Bach

## Double Bass

### Master of Music Audition Requirements

- Classical
  - First movement of a standard concerto such as Bottesini, Koussevitzky, or Vanhal
  - Three-octave major and minor scales
  - Sight Reading
- Jazz
  - Two memorized standards, such as *All the Things You Are*, *Body and Soul*, *Confirmation*, or *Stella by Starlight*. Be prepared to play the melody, a 2-beat bass line, a walking bass line, and an improvised solo.
  - Three-octave major and minor scales
  - Sight reading (ensemble part reading and lead sheet interpretation)

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements

- Classical
  - A memorized movement of a standard concerto such as Bottesini, Koussevitzky, Dittersdorf, or Vanhal
  - A memorized movement from a Baroque sonata or Bach cello suite
  - Modern work, post 1950 (optional)
  - Three-octave major and minor scales
- Jazz
  - See requirements on the [Jazz Studies website](#)

## **Guitar**

### **Master of Music Audition Requirements**

- Choose 2 from the following:
  - Movement from a Lute Suite, Cello Suite, or Violin Sonata or Partita by Bach
  - Work by Giuliani, Carulli, Carcassi, Sor, or comparable Classical composer
  - Work by Tarrega, Villa-Lobos, or comparable late 19th- or early 20th-century composer
  - Work by Brouwer or comparable 20th- or 21st-century composer
- Sight Reading

### **Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Audition Requirements**

- Choose at least three from the Master of Music Audition Requirements listed above
- Sight Reading