

**UNCG Piano Proficiency Guidelines**  
**Updated for Fall 2020**

Textbook: *Alfred's Group Piano for Adults: Book 2, 2nd ed.* by E. L. Lancaster and Kenon Renfrow

Students in MUP 133 and 134: Piano Proficiency is 30% of the final grade. A passing grade is 80%. *MUP 133 students may opt to take the final exam instead. In this case, do not sign up for Piano Proficiency, but schedule a separate time with the instructor for the final exam. These students will then take MUP 134 and Piano Proficiency next semester.*

For questions regarding the exam, please contact Class Piano Coordinator, Dr. Annie Jeng, (ajjeng@uncg.edu)

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**Total: 130 points**

**Repertoire (20 points)**

Two prepared solo pieces, memory not required. (Repertoire pieces should be chosen from the textbook, or you may substitute a repertoire selection with a work not in the textbook that is of comparable length difficulty, and musical quality to selections in the textbook.)

**Scales and Arpeggios (20 points)**

Major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios, two octaves, hands together, in eighth notes. (MM 60 = a quarter note). One week before the exam, 6 keys of scales and arpeggios will be given. (Two keys will be heard for the exam.)

**Triads and inversions (10 points)**

With one hand, you will be asked to play inversions of one major, one minor, one augmented, and one diminished triad. Any note is a possibility for a root.

**Harmonization and Transposition (20 points)**

1. Sight-read the right-hand melody by itself.
2. With left hand, play I-IV6/4-I-V6/5-I (or i-iv6/4-i-V6/5-i) progression in the key of the melody. You will also be asked to find other chords of the key, such as ii, vi, or V7/V.
3. Harmonize the melody using blocked chords (or a different accompanying style of their choice) in the left hand.
4. Transpose no. 3 to a different key.

**Sight-Reading (20 points)**

One selection equivalent to the "Reading" section found on pp. 401-402 of the Appendix.

**Score-Reading (20 points)**

Prepare one of the following four-part score reading excerpts:

- Quartet No. 17 in F major, p. 253
- Wenn so lind dein Auge mir, p. 255
- Agnus Dei, p. 278
- Dies Irae, p. 313
- Credo, p. 332
- Quartet in D minor, p. 333

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**Improvisation (20 points)**

Choose one of the two following options:

1. In the style of your choice, improvise right hand melodies on the given chord progression. Two types of notation will be provided for you to choose from: (1) Roman numerals, or (2) Lead-sheet chord symbols. (Examples can be found in books 1 and 2 of Alfred's Group Piano for Adults.) The chord progression will be based on one of the following:
  - a. I-IV<sup>6</sup>/4-I-V<sup>6</sup>/5-I
  - b. I-IV-V<sup>7</sup>/V-V<sup>7</sup>-I
  - c. I-IV-vii-iii-vi-ii-V-I

You will have one chance to play through the progression by itself. The left-hand accompaniment can be in any style (broken chords, waltz style, Alberti bass, blocked chords, etc.). You may use the suggested rhythm for your improvisation or create your own rhythm to complement the accompaniment. Any major key up to 4 sharps and 4 flats is a possibility.

2. Twelve-bar blues: The prepared performance of blues improvisation should include the 12-bar Blues progression in the left hand. To receive full points, the structure must be steady, clear and well-defined. The adjudicators will request a blues improvisation in one of the following major keys: C, G, D, F, B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat.