

New Music Major Information Sheet

BJU Secondary Piano Requirements

Students majoring in voice or orchestral instruments (including voice or orchestral instrument principals in the BME and the BMus Composition programs) are required to take secondary piano. These majors will be required to pass a secondary piano exam. *This requirement does not apply to students in the BA Music, the BS Music, or the BMus Performance Keyboard Track, nor to keyboard principals in the BME or the BMus Composition programs.*

To enter the first secondary piano class (Pi 197), new students will take a placement test. Students are encouraged to begin working on building piano skills prior to their enrollment as a music major so remedial work will not be necessary. Requirements for placement into Pi 197 are as follows:

1. Ability to read both treble and bass clef from Low C up to High C. Student should be able to find all these notes/keys on the piano keyboard.
2. Understand simple rhythms in 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 meter including quarter notes, half notes, dotted-half notes, whole notes, eighth notes and their respective rests.
3. Understand piano fingering.
4. Ability to play with rhythmic and note accuracy pieces comparable to Masterworks Classics Level 1 in difficulty.
5. Some knowledge of key signatures and major/minor scales and chords.
 - Scales & Key Signatures—C Major, G Major, a minor (natural & harmonic forms)
 - Major triads—C, G, D, A & F
 - Minor triads—a, e, d, g and c
6. Students not meeting these pre-requisites will be required to take a non-major piano course, Pi 101 and/or Pi 102 in preparation for Pi 197.
7. Suggested resources to prepare for the placement audition:
 - Alfred Adult All-In-One Course, Book 1. Alfred Music Publishing (1994).
 - First Favorite Classics, Book 1. Alfred Music Publishing (1997).
 - www.musictheory.net

Pi 197 Course Requirements

(students may test out of Pi 197 by performing most of the skills listed below)

PIANO SOLO/ACCOMPANIMENT:

Solo/accompaniment comparable to *Masterwork Classics*, Level 3 (Magrath, 1992) in difficulty.

CHORD PROGRESSIONS:

The student will be able to play the following chord progressions:

1. Play the progression I-IV-I- V7 I in major keys up to 3 sharps/2 flats
2. Play the progression i-iv-i-V7 i in 5 white key minors (c, g, d, a, and e).
3. Play the progression I-vi-ii-V7-I in major keys up to 3 sharps/2flats.

HARMONIZATION:

The student will be able to:

1. Harmonize melodies in major and minor keys using the primary and secondary chords in blocked chords (opt. broken chord).
2. Harmonize the ascending scale using primary chords in major keys up to 3 sharps/2 flats.

SIGHT READING:

The student will be able to play at sight a piano solo or accompaniment which is comparable to *Masterwork Classics*, Levels I-2 in difficulty.

Pi 197 requirements cont.

TECHNIQUE:

The student will be able to...

1. Play scales hands separately two octaves in major keys up to 3 sharps/2 flats.
2. Play minor scales on 5 white key tonics (c, g, d, a, e) harmonic form, two octaves, hands separately.

TRANSPOSITION:

The student will be able to transpose melodies harmonized with primary and secondary chords to various closely-related keys.

Pi 198 Course Requirements/Secondary Test Requirements

(students may test out of Pi 198 by performing most of the skills listed below)

ACCOMPANIMENT:

The student will be able to perform piano solos/accompaniment of Early Intermediate difficulty (Magrath, 1988, *Masterworks Classics* Levels 4). Tempo and continuity must be strong.

CHORD PROGRESSIONS:

The student will be able to perform the following chord progressions in major keys up to 4 sharps/3 flats on the mid-term exam.

I IV6-4 I V6-5 I *(and in c, g, d, a and e minor)*
I IV6-4 V7/V V6-5 I
I ii6 I6-4 V7 I

HARMONIZATION:

The student will be able to harmonize melodies in major and minor keys using the primary and secondary chords in two or more of the following styles: block chords, broken chords, or Alberti bass. (Harmonization with secondary dominants is optional).

HYMN:

The student will be able to play fluently one or more simplified hymns in three or four parts.

SIGHT READING:

The student will be able to play at sight a *Masterworks Classics*, Levels 2-3 piano solos.

TECHNIQUE:

The student will be able to...

1. Major Scales for C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb and Eb
2. Minor Scales for c, g, d, a and e (harmonic form)
3. Harmonized scale in all required major keys, ascending only.

TRANSPOSITION:

The student will be able to transpose melodies harmonized with primary and secondary chords to various closely-related keys.

Please email Dr. Nathan MacAvoy (nmacavoy@bjv.edu) if you have any questions.