

# DEGREE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## A-State Undergraduate and Graduate Percussion Majors

The following is an explanation of the expectations and procedures for percussion majors at Arkansas State University. The motivation behind these guidelines is the desire of the A-State Department of Music to ensure that graduates are qualified and prepared at the highest possible level for professional endeavors appropriate to the degree program sought. These criteria pertain to students whose applied area of concentration is percussion.

### ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

**Admission**—Prospective students must meet the admission requirements of the university as noted in the bulletins. <http://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins/index.dot>

**Auditions**—Prospective Percussion students must audition for Associate Professor Craig Collison prior to initial enrollment. Each student will be notified individually regarding audition results.

**Graduate Student Exam**—At the time of the audition, all candidates for the Master of Music in Percussion Performance will perform a four-mallet marimba solo, a snare drum solo, two orchestral keyboard excerpts, and drum set solo that demonstrates jazz styles. The applicant may also provide a video recording of the audition material listed above in lieu of a live audition.

### LEVELS OF STUDY

**Lower Level (MUSP 1111) is appropriate for the following:**

- Bachelor of Arts students who have been advised accordingly

**Lower Level (MUSP 1112) is appropriate for the following:**

- All beginning freshmen or transfer students
- Students who have changed their major and have not yet completed 4 credit hours of percussion study, including those changing applied majors within the area of performance (i.e. trumpet to voice, piano to voice, etc.)
- Students who have not yet passed the **Upper Level Proficiency Exam**

**Upper Level (MUSP 3112) is appropriate for the following:**

- Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Arts students who have passed the **Proficiency Exam** after at least 6 credit hours of percussion study.

**Graduate Level (MUSP 6111 or 6112) is appropriate for the following:**

- Master of Music or Master of Music Education students

**Student Recitals** (Tuesday Morning Recitals) involve all applied areas and occur periodically in the Recital Hall on Tuesdays at 11:00. The format is a traditional recital for which the appropriate attire is required. All performances require consent of the major applied teacher by filling out the *Tuesday Morning Recital Reservation Form* found on the A-State Music Department Web page under *Important Links*. <http://www.astate.edu/college/liberal-arts/departments/music/>

## **JURIES**

At the end of each semester of vocal study, students will perform a **Jury** (final exam) before a majority of the instrumental faculty or **Jury Committee**. Generally, the length of the Jury will depend on the length of time needed to perform the literature assigned to the student. Students enrolled in MUSP 1112 may need more than 10 minutes to perform material to be passed for upper level study. For the typical Jury, a grade will be given by Mr. Collison.

At certain times during a student's residency at A-State, the Jury may include a more extensive exam: A **Proficiency Exam or Admittance Exam**. The Proficiency and Admittance Exam permits the student to study at the 3000 Course Level. The Proficiency to study at 3000 Level is given after the percussion student successfully passes Proficiency Requirements for snare drum, two mallet marimba, four mallet marimba, timpani, and drum set. There is no Exit Proficiency. The student must pass at least six hours of upper level-3000 study to graduate with a BM degree, BME degree, and Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music.

### **A Proficiency Exam is appropriate for the following:**

- Transfer students seeking the Bachelor of Music Education Degree who have completed 6 or more credit hours of private percussion study at another institution and can perform all of the requirements listed on 3000 Level Percussion Proficiency. (those with less than 6 credits may attempt the exam at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> credit hour of percussion study)

### **An Admittance Exam is appropriate for the following:**

- Transfer students seeking the Bachelor of Music Degree who have completed 4 credit hours of private percussion. A-State students who desire to change their major to percussion performance but have taken 4 or more credit hours of private percussion study prior to becoming a music major and can perform all the 3000 Level Proficiency materials.
- Graduate students who have completed one semester of percussion study

All percussion students must demonstrate the ability to perform the following material to be admitted for upper level percussion study (3000 level). Portions of the materials may be passed during final jury examinations. Students will be asked to perform any or all of the following material in each category chosen by the instructor at the examinations. No prior notice of selections for the exam will be given.

The student is required to perform the following:

### **SNARE DRUM**

1. All of the 40 PASIC Rudiments from memory – slow to fast
2. All of the rudimental solos from “14 Modern Contest Solos,” by Pratt (exclude “Dexterity, Hodge Podge” and “Pass in Review”)
3. All of the etudes from “Portraits in Rhythm,” by Anthony Cirone (exclude etudes 11, 12, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 33, 37, 40, 43, and 50)

### **MARIMBA**

1. All major and minor scales (all three forms of minor) three octaves in sixteenth notes at quarter note=72
2. All major and minor triads in inversions two octaves in sixteenth notes at quarter note=72
3. First XX of the 39 Etudes from the “The Modern School for Xylophone, Marimba and Vibraphone” by Goldenberg (exclude numbers VI, IX, XI, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, and XX)
4. Xylophone excerpts from “Colas Breugnon” and “Polka from the Golden Age” (both excerpts are in the Goldenberg book)
5. Performance of a four-mallet marimba solo

### **TIMPANI**

1. Tuning exercises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 29 (Friese-Lepak Timpani Method)
2. A three drum or four drum etude from “Timpani Tuning Etudes,” by Ron Fink

### **DRUM SET**

Grooves from “Groove Essentials,” by Tommy Igoe: #2 fast, #11 slow funk, #14 slow 16<sup>ths</sup>, #18 swing-all variations, #23-slow shuffle, #26-waltz, #33-bossa nova, #34-medium samba, #39-cha cha, #45-salsa

### **DEGREE RECITALS**

Students of degree programs may include the performance of a half or full recital with teacher permission, even if not required. No matter what time of year the recital will occur, Recital Hall should be reserved during the first part of the fall semester for degree recitals. Stipulations for voice majors are as follows:

#### **Bachelor of Music Degree**

Junior Recital: 25 minutes of music – Required  
Senior Recital: 45 minutes of music – Required

#### **Bachelor of Arts Degree**

Exit Recital: 25 minutes of music – Optional

#### **Bachelor of Music Education Degree**

Exit Recital: 25 minutes of music – Optional

#### **Master of Music Degree**

Graduate Recital: 50 minutes of music – Required  
Recital literature must include a four mallet marimba solo and a multiple percussion solo.

#### **Master of Music Education Degree**

Exit Recital: 25 minutes of music – Optional

**Recital Evaluations**—Following the recital presentation, the Recital Committee will convene. After discussion, each committee member will vote pass/fail and make comments. The recital must be approved on a vote of four to one by the committee. If the result is “fail” the committee may ask the student to give the recital again during the next semester with possible changes in repertoire. In such a case, a grade of “I” (“incomplete”) will be assigned. If the recital is not completed in due time, the grade will be recorded as “F.”

**Recital receptions** are permissible directly following various performances in the Fine Arts Center Lobby. Please notify the Music Office of your needs at least two weeks in advance. Full clean-up is expected afterwards with tables, benches and chairs returned to their proper places.