



Cleveland Institute of Music Secondary Piano Study

Secondary performance study not only serves to develop complete musicianship but also provides practical training in areas essential to career maintenance.

Secondary piano study, which consists of a weekly group class in a piano lab setting or a weekly private lesson, focuses on the development of piano technique and musicianship through the study of scales and arpeggios, etudes, solo repertoire accompaniments, and other fundamentals.

Secondary piano proficiency is mandatory for all students except piano majors.

All students are expected to begin secondary piano study during their first semester at CIM and should complete the secondary piano sequence in consecutive semesters. Failure to do so may delay graduation

Second Piano Placement Auditions

All incoming students (undergraduates and transfer students), regardless of their previous piano background, must take a secondary piano placement audition during Orientation Week in August. Only piano majors are exempt from auditioning. All students (including audio recording and composition majors whose principal instrument is not piano) must achieve piano proficiency equivalent to MUSP 104 before graduation. Students have a maximum of four semesters (MUSP 101, 102, 103, and 104) to achieve MUSP 104 proficiency.

Conducting, organ, harpsichord, and eurhythmics majors as well as composition and audio recording majors whose primary instrument is piano are required to achieve piano proficiency at MUSP 204 level (in addition to/beyond the MUSP 104 level) prior to graduation.

The number of semesters of secondary piano required is determined through the placement audition, held during Orientation week in August.

Entering students with no piano background are generally placed into the first semester of secondary piano (MUSP 101). Entering students with some piano background may seek advanced placement into any of the levels listed below and are required to play competently all items corresponding to that level. Successful demonstration allows the student to begin study at the next level.



Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 101 (first semester)

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, two octaves

- Required keys: C, G, D, A, E majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: Folk tunes (hands together, melody plus accompaniment); Rameau Menuet en Rondeau (“Rondino”); Kabalevsky 24 Children’s Pieces, Op. 39 (Nos. 2, 7, 10, or 12)

Appropriate sight-reading level

Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 102 (second semester)

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, two octaves

- Required keys: C, G, D, A, E, B, F majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Minuet in G major; Beethoven Ecosaise in G major; Schumann Soldier’s March

Appropriate sight-reading level

Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 103 (third semester)

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, two octaves

- Required keys: C, G, D, A, E, B, F majors and harmonic minors; Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb majors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Musette in D major; Beethoven Sonatina in G major; Burgmuller Tender Grieving (“Sorrow”), Op. 100, No. 16

Appropriate sight-reading level



Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 104 (fourth semester)

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, two octaves

- Required keys: C, G, D, A, E, B, F majors and harmonic minors; Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb majors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: Clementi Sonatina in C major, Op. 36, No. 1 (1st or 3rd mvt); Burgmuller Arabesque, Op. 100; Kabalevsky Toccata, Op. 27, No. 12

Appropriate sight-reading level

** Other solo repertoire of comparable difficulty from the standard classical repertoire (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, 20th/21st century periods) may be used in place of the a solo repertoire suggested above. For questions regarding appropriate repertoire, please a contact Derek Nishimura, at dxn12@cim.edu before July 31.

Audition requirements below pertain to conducting, organ, harpsichord and eurhythmics majors as well as composition and audio recording majors whose primary instrument is piano.

Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 201/501

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, four octaves

- Required keys: all 24 majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Short Prelude in F major, BWV 927; Clementi Sonatina in F major, Op. 36, No. 4 (1st or 3rd mvt); Burgmuller Tarantella, Op. 100, No. 20

Appropriate sight-reading level

Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 202/502

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, four octaves

- Required keys: all 24 majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Short Prelude in C major, BWV 933; Kuhlau Sonatina in C major, Op. 20, No. 1 (1st or 3rd mvt); Chopin Preludes, Op. 28 4 or 6 (easier ones; 1 must be presented)

Appropriate sight-reading level



Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 203/503

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, four octaves

- Required keys: all 24 majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Two-Part Invention in F major, BWV 779; Beethoven Sonata in G major, Op. 49, No. 2; Mendelssohn Venetian Boat Song in F-sharp minor, Op. 30, No. 12

Appropriate sight-reading level

Audition requirements to pass out of MUSP 204/504

Scales and Arpeggios, hands together in parallel motion, four octaves

- Required keys: all 24 majors and harmonic minors
- Correct fingerings must be used

One Solo Piece**

- Suggested repertoire: J.S. Bach Two-Part Invention or work of similar level; a fast movement of a Classical Sonata; a Romantic character piece of Schumann, Grieg, Mendelssohn, or Chopin or work of similar level

Appropriate sight-reading level

** Other solo repertoire of comparable difficulty from the standard classical repertoire (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, 20th/21st century periods) may be used in place of the solo repertoire suggested above. For questions regarding appropriate repertoire, please contact Derek Nishimura at dxn12@case.edu before July 31.

Once the required level of piano proficiency has been attained, students have the option to take elective secondary piano lessons for an additional fee. Students should seek the advice of their principal teacher, secondary piano teacher and the CIM Registrar to determine the availability, cost and appropriateness of additional secondary performance study.

Transfer students must meet CIM requirements for secondary piano proficiency. CIM placement examinations determine the transferability of secondary performance credit earned at previous schools.