

APPM 273 KEYBOARD SKILLS COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS REVISED FALL 2011

Competency exams are required for APPM 173 through APPM 273. Exams are heard by keyboard faculty members and are graded Pass/Fail.

Students who are passing a course but who do not pass the corresponding competency exam after taking the course will receive a grade of “PR”; they must then take the competency exam at the beginning of the following semester. Students will have a limited number of opportunities to pass competency exams.

Students are required to take Keyboard Skills I (APPM 173) and Keyboard Skills II (APPM 174) before they are allowed to take the Keyboard Skills private lesson (APPM 126).

Students may test out of a Keyboard Skills section if they can pass the competency exam corresponding to that section. Having tested out of a section, the student can complete a “credit by exam” form (fee) and have this credit added to their list of completed courses.

All references are to:

Lyke, James. *Keyboard Musicianship: Piano for Adults Vol. 1*, 8th ed. Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing, 2009.

Skills:

1. Scales
Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, and Gb major. Hands together with correct fingering, two octaves ascending and descending, in eighth notes at a minimum tempo of quarter note = 80.
2. Cadences
With a steady pulse and correct voice leading, play I – IV – I – V7 – I in the following keys: C, G, D, A, E, and F major; c, g, d, e, a, and f minor.
3. Harmonization
 - a. Perform a harmonization of the melody “Aura Lee” (distributed in class) and be able to explain choices of harmonies and accompanying patterns.
4. Repertoire
Francis Scott Key: *The Star-Spangled Banner* (arr. Smith) – distributed in class
Thomas Attwood: *Sonatina*, pp. 294-295
Geoffrey Haydon: *Swing Street*, p. 301
5. Sight Reading
Students will be given a short excerpt (ca. 8-16 measures), moderate tempo, utilizing both hands simultaneously. Students will have approximately 30 seconds to study the example visually prior to performing.

Aura Lee

APPM 273 Competency requirement

George R. Poulton, 19th c.

F G7 C7 F



5 F G7 C7 F



9 F A7 Dm F7 Bb F



13 F D7 G7 C7 F



Star-Spangled Banner

APPM 273 competency requirements - VCU Music internal use only

Francis Scott Key
arr. Smith

With spirit (♩ = 104)

First system of musical notation (measures 1-7). The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The notation includes a treble and bass clef, a repeat sign at the beginning, and various fingering numbers (1-5) above and below notes. Dynamics include accents (>) and hairpins (> and <).

Second system of musical notation (measures 8-13). It continues the piece with similar notation, including a repeat sign and various fingering and dynamic markings.

Chorus

Chorus section of musical notation (measures 14-20). The notation features a treble and bass clef, a repeat sign, and various fingering and dynamic markings, including a forte (*f*) dynamic.

broaden

'broaden' section of musical notation (measures 21-27). The notation includes a treble and bass clef, a repeat sign, and various fingering and dynamic markings, including a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic.