

D.M.: Composition Examination Requirement

1. Major Application Requirements

Submit three (3) original compositions with differing instrumentations. Applications should include three (3) scores (double-sided and bound) and audio recordings of at least two (2) of the pieces [CD recording or digital file].

2. Major Entrance Exam

1) Oral Presentation (In-Person or Videotaped for International Applicants)

Formal presentation (10-15 minutes) on a selected piece. The piece will be sent by email to the applicants one week before the exam. Applicants should be prepared to present their observations of the formal structure, melodic/harmonic elements, texture, orchestration, text setting, and any other aspects of the piece deemed important. Applicants are encouraged to use audio-visual aids (including playing piano or recordings of examples, Powerpoint or other presentation software, and/or projection). The oral presentation will be done entirely in English.

2) Audition (In-Person or Videotaped for International Applicants)

Perform on piano or primary instrument:

- a. Scales and arpeggios in three (3) major and minor keys (two octaves).
- b. Simple chord progressions in three (3) major and minor keys.

3) Interview (In-Person or Video Interview for International Applicants)

All in-person exams, or International/Digital Applicants who pass parts A and B of the examination, will be interviewed as follows:

- a. Composition faculty will discuss the submitted works with the applicant.
- b. Composition faculty will ask questions pertaining to the presentation and audition.
- c. The Composition and Theory faculty may test aural skills and musicianship, including interval or chord identification by playing a collection of pitches at the piano.