

OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
Sophomore Barrier for Piano Primary Applied
Degrees: BM in Piano Performance with emphasis in Pedagogy, BMA, BME, BA Worship
Studies

DESCRIPTION

Any student pursuing a degree from the Division of Music and having piano as his/her primary instrument must successfully complete a barrier examination after four semesters of study (with a minimum of 12 credit hours of applied study for the BM degree or 8 hours of applied study for all other degrees). The exam must be passed in order for the student to continue in his/her chosen degree program and to be admitted to the junior level of applied piano study.

Transfer students will take the sophomore piano barrier exam when they have completed or have been granted credit for the number of required credit hours of applied piano study that equals those for the barrier of their chosen degree. If a transfer student has already completed the number of required credit hours at another college or university, the sophomore barrier exam will serve as his or her entrance exam into the specified degree program.

Purpose: To make certain that the student's progress is more than adequate to continue and satisfactorily complete the requirements in his or her specific degree program. This enables the OBU Division of Music and Department of Keyboard Studies to maintain the high standards consistent with OBU's reputation and to favorably reflect our mission and ensure the future success of our students.

Consequence: The Barrier Exam must be passed in order for the student to continue in their chosen degree program and be admitted to the junior level of piano primary applied study. If the exam is not passed, the following options are offered:

1. In the case of a BM student, change to BMA, BME, or BA Worship Studies if it is felt the requisite level of skill has been met for one of these degree programs.
2. Retake the exam after one more semester of study. If the student chooses option #2 but is unsuccessful in the second attempt to pass the exam, the student must choose an alternate area of study outside of piano.
3. Change to another applied instrument, remaining a music major (assuming acceptance by audition into another area).
4. Change to a degree outside of music

Assessment: At the end of four semesters of applied piano study (with a minimum of 12 credit hours for the BM degree or 8 credit hours for the other degrees), the following requirements must be met:

Be able to demonstrate the following aspects common to all piano primaries:

1. Sound: ability to project line, balance
2. Phrasing: shaping and articulation
3. Communication: convey the intentions of the composer and the style of the genre and style period
4. Continuity: demonstrate flow and fluidity
5. Accuracy: demonstrate written rhythms and pitches
6. Memory: demonstrate reliability with confidence and poise
7. Sight playing: demonstrate level appropriate for each degree plan
8. Rate of learning: demonstrate timely progress
9. Style: The repertoire performed in the preceding juries and inclusive of the sophomore barrier must reflect preparation and understanding of these 5 major periods: baroque (including a contrapuntal work equivalent to a 3-4 voice Bach fugue), classical (including a sonata by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, or equivalent), romantic, impressionist, and modern/contemporary.

BM: Pass Technique Levels 1-3

BMA, BME, BA Worship Studies: Pass Technique Level 1

As part of the final assessment for the sophomore piano barrier exam, the piano faculty will consider the student's performance in Theory and Aural Skills.

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NAME: _____ DEGREE: _____

Applied Piano Study to Date

Course Number	Credit Hours	Semester	Grade Received

Total Credit Hours Granted in Applied Piano Study: _____

Technique Levels Passed

Level	Semester and Year Passed
1 – Major scales,  = 100 and Major Arpeggios,  = 80	
2 – Harmonic and Melodic Minor Scales,  = 100 and Minor Arpeggios,  = 80	
3 - Dominant Seventh and Diminished Seventh Arpeggios,  = 80	
4 – Major Scales in 3 ^{rds} , 6 ^{ths} , and 10 ^{ths} ,  = 100	
5 – Harmonic Minor Scales in 3 ^{rds} , 6 ^{ths} , and 10 ^{ths} ,  = 100	
6 – Teacher Discretion (please indicate)	

Jury Repertoire (inclusive of Sophomore Barrier)

Semester and Year	Repertoire Performed	Style Period Represented	Grade Received

Does the performed repertoire above reflect preparation and understanding of these style periods:

	Yes	No	<u>Comments (optional)</u>
Baroque (contrapuntal)			
Classical (sonata)			
Romantic			
20 th c./21 st c.			

Comments regarding student's ability to demonstrate the aspects of performance listed on p. 2.

Theory and Aural Skills Assessment (in consultation with Theory Faculty)

This is the first attempt at the Sophomore Barrier ☐

This is the second attempt at the Sophomore Barrier ☐

	Passed	Passed, but with Serious Reservations	Not Passed
Sophomore Barrier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*If “with Serious Reservations” or “Not Passed,” please explain: