

Jazz Piano Proficiency Exam

Hope College Department of Music

This Jazz Piano Proficiency Exam must be completed by all Bachelor of Music Jazz Emphasis majors. While the student is free to schedule the proficiency exam at the end of any semester, s/he is strongly advised to schedule it immediately upon completion of the Jazz Piano Lesson sequence. It will still be fresh at this time and if problems should arise there will be ample time to retake the exam without delaying graduation. An examination may be requested by signing up for a time during Jazz Juries.

1. **Blues**

You will be required to comp (using two-handed voicings) over a Major blues in any of the five keys: C, F, Bb, Eb and G. You will also be required to comp (using two-handed voicings) over a minor blues in any of the following three keys: C, D, and F.

2. **Standards**

You must be able to play (at marked tempi) from memory, using appropriate left-hand voicings and playing the melody in the right, four standards to be agreed upon mutually between you and your applied jazz piano instructor. For example:

All of Me
Body and Soul
Stella by Starlight
Girl from Ipanema

3. **Sight-Reading**

The faculty jury may request the student sight-read a simple chord progression and melody.