



Western Oregon UNIVERSITY

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR

B.M. in Contemporary Music: Concentration in Jazz & Popular Music
Western Oregon University

Applicants must meet these audition requirements before being admitted to the degree program. Applicants may begin to take jazz courses such as jazz ensembles, applied study, jazz theory, and jazz keyboard harmony, before being admitted to the jazz degree program.

VOCAL TRACK

1. Sing one art song in English, Italian, German, or French
2. Sing one medium swing tempo song (preferably from the standard jazz repertoire—use this for ideas:) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_American_Songbook
3. Sing one jazz ballad
4. Sight read short rhythmic and melodic examples
5. Vocalize through your full vocal range and demonstrate proficient vocal technique

Applicants may also perform one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

- Pop/Rock/Gospel/Blues Song of your choosing
- Memorized solo transcription from an iconic recording
- Piano skills
- Other

INSTRUMENTAL TRACK

(See Specific Requirements for Piano, Bass, Guitar, and Drums)

1. Play a classical piece that demonstrates proficiency on your instrument
2. Play the major scale in all keys, in eighth notes, quarter note = 100
3. Play the head and improvise two choruses to “Now’s The Time” (Aebersold Vol. 1 Track 8)
4. Play the melody and improvise two choruses of one of the following:

“There Will Never Be Another You” (Aebersold Vol. 15 Track 2)

“Oleo” (Aebersold Vol. 47 Track 13)

“Autumn Leaves” (Aebersold Vol. 44 Track 2)

“Lady Bird” (Aebersold Vol. 70 Track 10)

“Blue Bossa” (Aebersold Vol. 38 Track 6)

5. Sight Reading

Applicants may also perform one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

- Memorized solo transcription from an iconic recording
- Excerpt from a big band chart
- Instrumental etude
- Piano skills
- Additional scales
- Other

GUITAR

1. Play the major scale in all keys, in eighth notes, quarter note = 100
2. Comp for two choruses on "Now's the Time" (Aebersold Vol. 1 Track 8)
3. Play the head and improvise two choruses to "Now's The Time" (Aebersold Vol. 1 Track 8)
4. Play the head--chords and melody—and improvise two choruses of one of the following:

"There Will Never Be Another You" (Aebersold Vol. 15 Track 2)

"Oleo" (Aebersold Vol. 47 Track 13)

"Autumn Leaves" (Aebersold Vol. 44 Track 2)

"Lady Bird" (Aebersold Vol. 70 Track 10)

"Blue Bossa" (Aebersold Vol. 38 Track 6)

5. Sight Reading

Applicants may also perform one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

- Memorized solo transcription from an iconic recording
- Excerpt from big band chart
- Instrumental solo or etude
- Blues, gospel, rock tune, or riff
- Piano skills
- Additional scales
- Other

PIANO

1. Play a classical piece that demonstrates proficiency on your instrument
2. Play the major scale in all keys, in eighth notes, quarter note = 100
3. Comp for two choruses on "Now's the Time" (Blues in F)
4. Play the head and improvise two choruses to "Now's The Time" (Aebersold Vol. 1 Track 8)
5. Play the head and improvise two choruses of one of the following:

"There Will Never Be Another You" (Aebersold Vol. 15 Track 2)

"Oleo" (Aebersold Vol. 47 Track 13)

"Autumn Leaves" (Aebersold Vol. 44 Track 2)

"Lady Bird" (Aebersold Vol. 70 Track 10)

"Blue Bossa" (Aebersold Vol. 38 Track 6)

6. Sight Reading

Applicants may also perform one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

- Memorized solo transcription from an iconic recording
- Excerpt from a big band chart
- Instrumental etude
- Pop or rock tune
- Additional scales
- Other

BASS

1. Play the major scale in all keys with at least two fingerings for each scale. In eighth notes, Quarter Note = 100.
2. Improvise a walking bass line on "Now's the Time" (Blues in F).
3. Play a bass line on a bossa, samba, funk or rock tune, such as "Blue Bossa," "How Insensitive," "The Chicken," or "Cantaloupe Island."

Applicants may also bring in one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

- A transcribed bass line from an iconic recording
- An improvised bass line to a jazz standard
- Melodic, minor or harmonic minor scales
- A rock, gospel, or funk bass line.
- Piano skills
- Additional scales
- Other

PERCUSSION

1. Play a classical piece that demonstrates proficiency on the snare drum, vibraphone, or marimba.
2. On the drum set, play two choruses of medium blues, swing style quarter note = 144
3. On the drum set, play two choruses of one of the following:

Blue Bossa (Medium Bossa Style)

Anthropology (Up tempo Swing Style)

The Chicken (Medium Funk/Rock Style)

Mercy Mercy Mercy (Medium Funk/Soul Style)

4. Sight Reading – Snare drum or Vibraphone/Marimba

Applicants may also perform one optional prepared item that demonstrates their jazz ability or musicianship such as:

Transcribed drum fills from an iconic recording

New Orleans street beat

Latin/Afro Cuban groove

Latin Jazz drumming on conga or bongo

Vibraphone/Marimba

Piano skills

Additional scales

Other