

PIANO AREA

PRACTICAL EXAM REQUIREMENTS



General Regulations and Requirements for Examinations and Recitals

General Information

Examinations

Normally, students should sit a practical exam at the end of the Winter term. Students are advised to check on Minerva to verify that they have been registered for the correct exam course number. Students who have entered the University in January and those who are given permission to withdraw may sit the practical exam in the December examination period. Students must submit their exam repertoire by the stated deadlines. Students are referred to the Calendar of the Schulich School of Music for a full description of the regulations for examinations.

Transfers

Students wishing to transfer from Concentration to Performance, or from the Bachelor in Performance to Licentiate must apply through Minerva between Feb. 15 and Mar. 1 for an **intra-faculty transfer** (consult <http://www.mcgill.ca/music/current-students/undergraduate/all-students/program-transfer-and-readmission>).

NOTE: While reviewing this website, do not confuse "intra" with "inter-faculty" as procedures differ. An audition during the April exam period will be required. Students may use a Concentration exam as their Performance audition if the repertoire of the exam matches the Entrance Audition requirements for Performance.

General Guidelines for Examinations

Examination Program Length

Concentration	MUIN 283 Concentration Final 20-25 mins.		
Performance	MUIN 282 Performance 1 25-30 mins.	MUIN 382 Performance 2 recital - 45 mins.	MUIN 482 Performance 3 recital - 55 mins.
Licentiate	MUIN 252 Licentiate 1 25-30 mins.	MUIN 352 Licentiate 2 recital - 45 mins.	MUIN 452 Licentiate 3 recital - 65 mins.

Examination Marking

Practical examinations will be graded by percentage. The percentages and their letter grades and equivalents are as follows:

90 – 100	A	Exceptional	4.0	65 – 69	B-	Satisfactory	2.7
85 – 90	A	Excellent	4.0	60 – 64	C+	Acceptable	2.3
80 – 84	A-	Very Good	3.7	55 – 59	C	Pass	2.0
75 – 79	B+	Good	3.3	50 – 54	D	Non-continuation pass	1.0
70 – 74	B	Fair	3.0	0 – 49	F	Fail	0.0

Students in B.Mus. Performance must achieve a mark of B- in order to remain in the program.

Students in Licentiate must achieve a mark of A- in order to remain in the program.

Students in all other programs must achieve a mark of C in order to remain in the program.

Requirements for examination programs

- 1) **Duration** of all examination/recitals may be 10% shorter **or** longer than the described timing.
- 2) **Memorization** is compulsory for **all** examinations except for those in Concentration. Memorization of repertoire in category (f) is **optional**. For other categories, performing with music must be approved by the Piano Area in advance.

CONCENTRATION FINAL (MUIN 283)

Repertoire to be determined in consultation with the teacher and should reflect the student's interests.

Memorization of repertoire is optional.

B.Mus. (Performance) & Licentiate Repertoire Requirements:

The following repertoire requirements apply to students in B. Mus (Performance) and Licentiate. During his/her course of study, the student must perform at least one work from each of the categories before an examination jury. **For works in Category (f), memorization is optional.** For other categories, performing with music must be approved by the piano area in advance.

- a) **17th/18th centuries**
e.g., J. S. Bach, Domenico Scarlatti, Rameau, Handel, Couperin, Virginalists, etc.
- b) **Mid 18th - Early 19th Centuries**
e.g., C. P. E. Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Clementi, etc.
- c) **19th Century**
e.g., Mendelssohn, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, Brahms, etc.
- d) **Late 19th - Early 20th Centuries**
e.g., Fauré, Debussy, Ravel, Albeniz, Reger, Scriabin, Rachmaninoff, etc.
- e) **Early - Mid 20th Century Style (to circa 1960)**
e.g., Bartok, Berg, Janacek, Webern, Hindemith, Stravinsky, Poulenc, Prokofieff, LaMarche, Messiaen, Morel, Shostakovich, Copland, Ives, Britten, Schoenberg, etc.
- f) **Late 20th Century Style to the Present**
e.g., Saariaho, Takemitsu, Dun, Yun, Chin, Stockhausen, Boulez, Berio, Xenakis, Ligeti, Mather, Cherney, Lanza, Rea, Hambraeus, Vivier, Tremblay, Crumb, Carter, etc.
- g) **A work of the student's choice that is an expression of their convictions about the artist's role in society. A written reflection (ca. one page) on the reasons motivating the choice should be submitted to the exam panel.**

PERFORMANCE 1 (MUIN 282) / Licentiate 1 (MUIN 252)

I. Repertoire:

1. Bach: One Prelude and Fugue from the Well-Tempered Clavier
2. Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven or Schubert: Students may select an excerpt from a sonata (1st Movement, or Two subsequent movements, including a finale) or they may play a complete sonata, depending on the timing of their program OR a set of variations from any composer of the Classical period.
3. AND ONE OF
Scarlatti: One Sonata, with all repeats.
Mendelssohn: One Song without Words, chosen from the following list: Op. 19 Nos. 2, 3, or 5; Op. 30 Nos. 2, 4, or 5; Op. 38 Nos. 3 or 5; Op. 53 Nos. 3 or 6; Op. 62 No. 2; Op. 67 Nos. 2 or 4; Op. 85 Nos. 3 or 5; Op. 102 No. 3
Clementi: Gradus ad Parnassum: Twenty-Nine Selected Studies, ed. Tausig (two excerpts)
Czerny: Op. 299 Books 2,3 or 4 (two excerpts)
OR
Instead of selections listed in 3. above students may choose to play one appropriate etude selected from the Tech II and III exams.
4. Depending on the duration of the repertoire chosen from sections 1., 2., and 3. above, the student may perform additional pieces of their own choice, in order to create a program of the required length.

PIANO TECHNIQUES 2 (MUIN 333) [Marking: Pass-Fail]

Mandatory test for pianists in the Performance and Licentiate programs to be taken before the Performance 2 recital during the exam periods (4 – 5 minutes in length)

I. Repertoire:

Any one of :

Scarlatti: two Sonatas, all repeats.

Czerny: Tocatta Op. 92 or two Etudes from Op. 365 and/or Op. 740

Mendelssohn: two Etudes

Bartok: Mikrokosmos Vol. V or VI (excerpts circa 5 minutes)

Hindemith: Ludus Tonalis (one Interludium and Fugue)

Prokofiev: Suggestions Diabolique

Shostakovich: one Prelude and Fugue

Reger: two Canons

OR

Instead of selections listed in 1. above, students may choose to play one appropriate etude selected from the Tech III exam.

*[Please note that all pieces and etudes played in the Technique tests must be performed from memory. These pieces may also be included in **one** of the subsequent Recital-Examination Programs.]*

PIANO CONCERTO (MUIN 369) [Marking: Pass-Fail]

The B.Mus.(Major) program requires the candidate to present the **first movement**, or the **second movement and finale** of a concerto, to be examined by a jury. Students registered in the L. Mus. program must perform a complete concerto. Memorization is required. Concerto Competition performance may replace the concerto exam if the requirements of the concerto exam are met. In this case, students must apply before the Concerto Competition.

PERFORMANCE 2 (MUIN 382) / Licentiate 2 (MUIN 352)

A public presentation, before a jury, of a 45 minute program intended to demonstrate competence in public solo performance. Concertos cannot be included in these programs.

PIANO TECHNIQUES 3 (MUIN 433) [Marking: Pass-Fail]

Mandatory test for pianists in the Performance and Licentiate programs to be taken before the Performance 3 recital during the exam periods. (8 – 10 minutes in length)

I. Repertoire:

Etudes by any of the following composers: Bartok, Brahms, Chaminade, Debussy, Legeti, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Moszkowski, Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Saint-Saëns, Scriabin, Stravinsky, Szymanowski, Chopin (Op. 10 and 25) or equivalent.

*[Please note that all pieces and etudes played in the Technique tests must be performed from memory. These pieces may also be included in **one** of the subsequent Recital-Examination Programs.]*

PERFORMANCE 3 (MUIN 482) / Licentiate 3 (MUIN 452)

A public solo recital. Concertos cannot be included in these programs. Please refer to page 1 for exam program lengths.