

BRASS and PERCUSSION JURY GUIDELINES

General

- Regular juries will be ten minutes in length.
- Barrier, senior, masters, and provisional/probation juries will be fifteen minutes in length.
- Each faculty member will submit a grade and written comments for each jury performance.
- The primary teacher has sole responsibility for issuing a grade to a student at any level. Area faculty can only suggest how a grade may be determined. The primary teacher may average the numeric jury grade together with lesson grades as he/she sees fit.
- For all barrier juries, the grading system will be PASS/FAIL. Each faculty member will submit a grade of either pass or fail with 2.5 being considered as the minimum grade to pass. To pass a barrier jury, a student must have at least 50% passing scores. Following a passing barrier jury, the primary faculty member may also request that all area faculty submit a numeric grade as well, using a 4.0 scale, to aid in the calculation process of a semester grade for that student.
- For brass, the absence of a live keyboard accompanist, when required, will result in a jury grade of fail.
- A “Barrier Jury Test Result” form will be completed for all 154/155 barrier juries and all provisional status juries, and should be turned in to the office of the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies by the primary teacher.
- For all NON-barrier juries, a number grade will be submitted by the other brass faculty to the primary teacher, using a 4.0 scale. The teacher may use these grades as he or she sees fit in calculating the final grade for the semester. Any non-barrier jury that results in an average grade below 2.0 will trigger a discussion and vote for a potential move to provisional status for that student for the following semester. (See freshman level information below for specifics on provisional status.)
- For percussion, see the specific percussion jury requirements in the syllabus.*
- The primary teacher reserves the right to inform the jury of any critical information about a student, either positive or negative, that may influence the quality of their jury performance and their grade for the semester.
- Each performer will be required to bring at least four copies of all performance repertoire to the jury to aid in the grading process.
- Each performer must complete a “Jury Information Sheet” and bring it with them to the jury.
- At the discretion of the studio instructor, preliminary brass-percussion area auditions for the MSU Honors Concert may substitute for one of the regular jury exams.
- Please consult with your instructor or another member of the brass and percussion faculty if in doubt on the appropriate attire for the jury exam.

Specific Levels

FRESHMAN music majors will take juries in both the fall and spring semesters. For brass, at least one piece must be accompanied on one of these juries (any type of keyboard accompaniment medium may be used). For percussion see the jury guidelines in the syllabus.*

Any student placed on provisional admission status (as a result of an audition or a jury recommendation) must take a jury at the end of the next semester of study to determine whether they will be allowed to continue applied music lessons. To remove the provisional status, a student must earn an averaged jury grade of 2.0 or higher. If the provisional status is not removed, the student will not be allowed to continue enrollment in applied music lessons. Although this decision (if negative) does not remove a student from the College of Music, it does seriously impact his or her ability to obtain any music-related degree at this institution.

SOPHOMORE music majors will take a jury (barrier) only in their second semester of applied study, generally the fourth semester of enrollment at the 154/155 level. This jury will determine whether or not they may progress to the 354/355 level of study. For brass, at least one substantial piece must be performed with a live keyboard accompanist at this jury. For percussion, see the jury guidelines in the percussion syllabus.*

If a student receives a failing grade (as described above) on the barrier jury and is not advanced to the 354/355 level, he/she must enroll for an additional semester of study at the 154/155 level, and pass the barrier jury following this extra semester at the 154/155 level. Failure to score a grade of pass on this second barrier jury will mean that a student can no longer continue in the applied music sequence on the particular instrument.

JUNIOR music majors will take one jury exam, which may occur in either the fall or spring semester. For brass at least one piece must be accompanied (any type of keyboard accompaniment medium) on this jury. For percussion, see the jury guidelines in the syllabus.*

For music composition majors, the final jury generally takes place at the end of the junior year, following the required four credits of study at the 354/355 level. A grade of 2.5 or better is needed from the averaged jury grades to complete the applied music course of study.

SENIOR music majors will take a jury in the spring semester or at the conclusion of their fourth semester of study at the 354/355 level. For brass, at least one substantial work must be performed with a live keyboard accompanist at this jury. For percussion, see the jury guidelines in the syllabus.*

In addition, a senior who gives a senior recital in his or her final semester and performs at a satisfactory level, may be allowed to forgo his/her final jury at the discretion of the applied teacher. Please note that the applied professor has the authority to require a jury whether the student has performed a recital or not.

MASTERS students taking lessons at the 854/855 level for either two or three credits must take one jury in the first year of study during either semester. For brass, at least one piece must be accompanied (any type of keyboard accompaniment medium) at this jury. For percussion, see the jury guidelines in the syllabus.*

Graduate students who are fulfilling the requirements for the Brass Specialist Degree should follow the jury requirements in the Graduate Handbook.

DMA students will not be required to take any jury exams.

**See attached guidelines from the MSU Percussion Studio Syllabus (below)*

From MSU Percussion Studio Syllabus:

FRESHMEN are required to perform a jury after both semesters of study at MSU. These juries must include at least one work for keyboard percussion and a solo, etude, or excerpt on either timpani or snare drum or both. Other repertoire may also be included at the discretion of the professor. Freshmen juries will include time to play the scale juries.

SOPHOMORES are required to perform one jury (the barrier jury) that generally occurs at the end of the spring semester or after four semesters of MUS 155. This jury will include one substantial work for keyboard percussion. It will also include standard orchestral excerpts or a substantial solo or etude for timpani, snare drum, or multiple-percussion. Other repertoire may also be included at the discretion of the professor.

JUNIORS are required to perform one jury that will generally occur at the end of the spring semester. This jury will include repertoire that is representative of the work that the student has completed during the year. It must include substantial works or excerpts in at least two different areas of percussion. These juries will include time to play the scale juries. In addition, a junior who gives a recital in his/her final semester and performs at a satisfactory level may be allowed to forgo his/her jury at the discretion of the applied teacher. Please note that the applied professor has the authority to require a jury whether the student has performed a recital or not.

For music composition majors, the final jury generally takes place at the end of the junior year, following the required four credits of study at the 355 level. A grade of 2.5 or better is needed from the averaged jury grades to complete the applied music course of study. The requirements for this jury are the same as for the junior jury.

SENIOR percussion majors in both music performance and music education are required to perform a recital. If the student has performed satisfactorily on this recital, then the student may be allowed to forgo his/her jury at the discretion of the applied teacher. Please note that the applied professor has the authority to require a jury whether the student has performed a recital or not. If a jury is required it must include repertoire that is representative of the work the student has completed during the year. It must include substantial works or excerpts in at least two different areas of percussion.

MASTERS students in percussion are required to perform at least one recital. If the student has performed satisfactorily on this recital, then the student may be allowed to forgo his/her jury at the discretion of the applied teacher. Please note that the applied professor has the authority to require a jury whether the student has performed a recital or not. If a jury is required it must include repertoire that is representative of the work the student has completed during the year. It must include substantial works or excerpts in at least three different areas of percussion.

DMA students are not required to perform juries.

FRESHMEN, JUNIOR, and MASTERS juries will be listened to by two members of the percussion faculty. BARRIER and SENIOR juries will be listened to by two members of the percussion faculty along with two members of the brass faculty. For all juries you should dress professionally. For the FRESHMEN, JUNIOR, and MASTERS juries you need to bring one copy of all of your music for the professors. For BARRIER and SENIOR juries you need to bring three copies of your music. You are also required to fill out jury forms for each of the professors listening to the jury. For the FRESHMEN, JUNIOR, and MASTERS juries you need two forms and for the SOPHOMORE and SENIOR juries you need four forms.