

## STUDY GUIDE FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON UNDERGRADUATE KEYBOARD SKILLS PLACEMENT EXAM

**Please note that Music Core Placements Exams are offered only once per year during Week of Welcome (WOW) – the week prior to the beginning of fall term. Typically, the Theory and Aural Skills placement exams take place Wednesday of WOW, and the Keyboard Skills placement takes place on Friday of WOW. By early September, WOW schedule details should be viewable on the SOMD website: <https://music.uoregon.edu>.**

### Keyboard Skills I-III – For those with less than 2 years of theory and piano

- Interval identification by playing and saying note names, the given interval, and direction (ascending or descending).
- One-octave scales in major, minor forms, and all modes with solfege.
- Arpeggiate given major, minor, diminished, and augmented triads and their inversions.
- Arpeggiate major, minor, dominant, half, & fully-diminished chords and their inversions.
- Realize short I & V7 Roman Numeral progressions and Figured Bass lines in keyboard style with proper voice leading.
- Sight Reading single line melodies written in the Treble, Bass, Alto, and Tenor clefs.

### Keyboard Skills I-III Honors

This is for students who can demonstrate the ability to play 2 octave major and minor scales hands together, have memorized piano repertoire, are piano majors or have had numerous years of private piano instruction.

### Keyboard Skills IV-VI – For those with 2+ years of theory and piano

#### *Theory*

All second year keyboard theory exercises are to be played in "keyboard style"; that is, bass line in the left hand and three-note chords in the right hand. Exercises are done in keys up to three sharps and flats, using Roman Numerals, Figured Bass, and Lead Sheet notation (with most emphasis on Roman Numerals).

- Play tonic prolongations. (Be able to start with do, mi, or sol in the soprano voice of the right hand.)  
Ex. I--- V---- I, I--- V43---- I6, I--V65--I, I--V42--I6
- Play cadences. (Be able to start with do, mi, or sol in the soprano voice of the right hand.)  
Ex V64-53--- I, V7----I 4--3, etc.
- Play secondary dominants. (Be able to start with do, mi, or sol in the soprano voice of the right hand.)  
Ex. I---V65/IV----IV, I--V43/vi---vi, etc.
- Use a pivot chord modulation to go from tonic to relative minor.
- Use the circle of fifths to modulate.
- Play Neapolitan and Augmented Sixth chords in a chord progression.

#### *Scales*

- All minor scales two octaves.
- Chord Progression i--ii6---V64-53---i in all keys. The Neapolitan may be substituted for the ii6.
- Modes one octave (Dorian, Phrygian, etc).

#### *Reading and singing*

- Sing a melody while playing a bass line in the left hand.
- Provide an accompaniment for a song (including secondary dominants). (KS IV)
- Sightread easy sonatinas. (KS V)
- Play two-voice counterpoint at difficulty level of Bartok's Mikrokosmos II. (KS VI)
- Read Lead Sheet at difficulty level of "Autumn Leaves" with root, thirds, and sevenths. (KS VI)
- Simplify a piano accompaniment into block chords and sing the melody for Schubert art song passage. (Final, Level VI)