

Piano Proficiency Placement at the UW-Madison School of Music

All music students at UW-Madison are expected to gain a certain level of piano proficiency. If students have a strong piano background in addition to their technical knowledge of their own major instrument, it is possible to test out of some or all of the semesters of required piano class.

Piano proficiency auditions take place on our regular School of Music audition dates, or by appointment. If you have had previous piano instruction, and if you did not audition for piano placement on your audition day, please sign up when you arrive on campus in the fall, either in-person or via e-mail to Prof. Jessica Johnson jgjohnson@wisc.edu, for a 10-minute audition. An audition sign-up sheet with specific times will be posted the week before classes begin, outside Professor Johnson's office, Room 5418 of the Humanities Building.

If you have not had previous piano instruction, Ms. Atwood will help you enroll in the beginning piano course at SOAR.

All music majors (except piano majors) must fulfill a piano proficiency requirement to complete their degree. If you have specific questions about the audition, please email Professor Jessica Johnson: jgjohnson@wisc.edu

Depending on the degree program and major, piano requirements will vary from two to six semesters. Our music advisor will discuss specific requirements with students in greater detail when they begin advising and registration. It is **highly recommended** that students take these piano courses beginning in their first year of study as a music major.