



School of Music

Group Piano Program

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Music in Performance (BM), Bachelor of Music in Education (BME), or Bachelor of Arts in Music (BA) degrees must satisfy standard piano proficiency requirements prior to student teaching and/or graduation. These requirements must be met in *one* of the following ways:

BM and BME Degrees

- a) Complete MUP 101, MUP 102, MUP 201, and MUP 202 with a grade of “C” or better. The entire course sequence must be completed to meet the proficiency requirement. This option is recommended for students with 0–2 years of prior piano experience.
- b) Receive advanced placement into MUP 102, MUP 201, or MUP 202. Once placement is determined, complete the necessary group piano courses (through MUP 202) with a grade of “C” or better.
 - a. Three to four years of prior piano experience is recommended for advanced placement into MUP 102.
 - b. Five to six years of prior piano experience is recommended for advanced placement into MUP 201.
 - c. Seven to nine years of prior piano experience is recommended for advanced placement into MUP 202.
- c) Take the advanced proficiency exam to test out of the entire group piano sequence (MUP 101, MUP 102, MUP 201, and MUP 202). If the proficiency exam is not passed, the student will be placed into the appropriate group piano class to meet the requirement. This option is recommended for students with ten or more years of prior piano experience.

BA Degree

- a) Complete MUP 101 and MUP 102 with a grade of “C” or better. Both courses must be completed in order to meet the proficiency requirement. This option is recommended for students with 0–2 years of prior piano experience.
- b) Receive advanced placement into MUP 102. This option is recommended for students with three to four years of prior piano experience.
- c) Take the basic proficiency exam to test out of MUP 101 and MUP 102. If the proficiency exam is not passed, the student will be placed into the appropriate group piano class to meet the requirement. This option is recommended for students with five to six years of prior piano experience.

Exam Times: Placement exams are administered in the Fall and Spring semesters during the first week of classes and finals week. Summer exam times are also available by appointment. If you wish to take a placement exam or the advanced proficiency exam, please contact Dr. Michelle Wachter at michelle.wachter@nau.edu to receive the full exam and to set up an exam time.

Note: Once a student enters the group piano sequence, they must finish all remaining levels to meet the proficiency requirement. No placement or proficiency exams may be taken while the student is in the middle of the course sequence.