

**Pittsburg State University
Department of Music**

**Junior Examination Packet
(update March 1, 2020)**

Background - The Junior Examination is a developmental landmark in the process of earning a music degree at Pittsburg State University and represents the transition from lower division studies to upper division status. It evaluates the candidate in many areas of their educational development and serves as a benchmark for students in the program. The intent is to ensure that the student is making adequate progress towards graduating in a timely manner and as a tool for faculty to provide feedback to students as they reach the academic and musical midpoint of their music degree program. The Junior Examination occurs at the end of the 4th semester for zero-hour entries and at the end of the 2nd semester for transfer students. Exceptions to this timeline could be made on a case-by-case basis.

Process - The Junior Examination consists of two areas of consideration: 1) applied music performance achievement and 2) adequate academic progress. These areas are detailed below:

Applied Music Performance Achievement

Applied Music Performance Achievement will be evaluated by an extended jury that is adjudicated by faculty members in the student's area (voice, woodwinds, brass, strings, piano, and percussion). This jury will take place during the normal jury time at the end of the semester. However, students should sign-up for two consecutive jury slots.

Music selection and performance standards should be determined by the student's applied teacher. For the purpose of the Junior Examination, the performance will be rated pass or fail and appropriate feedback will be provided to the student.

If a student does not pass the Junior Examination Jury, they are allowed one additional semester to address any performance deficiencies. Under normal circumstances, a student will be advised to change to a different academic major if not able to pass their second attempt at the performance jury.

Adequate Academic Progress

Academic Progress will be evaluated by a committee of music faculty members based on an academic portfolio that is submitted by the student to the music department chair by the Monday of finals week or prior to the student's performance jury (if jury is held before finals week). It is recommended that students submit the portfolio in a folder or binder. The contents of the portfolio are as follows:

Portfolio Contents

1. ____ The candidate will prepare a typed *Statement of Career Goals* in their degree. This should outline your career goals, both short-term and long-term. Correct grammar and spelling will be taken into consideration.
2. ____ Copies of transcripts from all completed semesters in the program
3. ____ Report of projected grades from all classes in which the student is currently enrolled (see attached form).
4. ____ Copies of all Recital Hour or other solo performance programs that the student has appeared in during their lower division status.
5. ____ Three (3) *Forms of Recommendation* from faculty members in the Department of Music. **Please note:** These forms should be submitted by the faculty members to be included in the review process. (see forms attached).

Academic criteria used in consideration of the student's admission to upper division status are as follows:

- ____ Passed at least up through Theory 2 (a grade of C or better)
- ____ Passed at least up through Class Piano 132 (a grade of C or better)
- ____ Completed both English 101 and English 299 or the equivalent
- ____ Positive feedback from faculty via the 3 *Forms of Recommendation*

With regard to the academic aspect of the Junior Examination, the student will simply not be allowed to enroll at the 450 level in applied lessons until all requirements of the policy have been met. Once the upper division status has been cleared, the student still needs three semesters of applied study at the 450 level before graduation for a BME student, and four semesters at the 450 level for a BM student. BA majors will have only two semesters of applied study at the 450 level left.

Attachments included:

- Forms of recommendation (3)
- Report of Projected grades

**Pittsburg State University
Department of Music
Junior Examination Recommendation Form**

Student Name _____

Faculty Name _____

Please circle 1-5, with 1 being the highest

	High.....	Low
Musicianship	1	2	3	4	5
Collegiality	1	2	3	4	5
Performance in coursework	1	2	3	4	5
Ambition	1	2	3	4	5
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5
Potential for success	1	2	3	4	5
Accountability/Responsibility	1	2	3	4	5
Attitude	1	2	3	4	5
Overall	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

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Comments: