

Discipline: JAZZ/COMMERCIAL DRUM SET

General Information:

The stated proficiencies below apply to that department and its undergraduate lesson discipline.

As a part of the U.S. Department of Education's Music Education Initiative, Towson University is a member of the program.

Any student wishing to take 300-level applied lessons must successfully pass an upper division course demonstrating the proficiency of a particular discipline.

Proficiencies for a 1-credit lesson

Freshman Level

Perform assigned solos by memory from repertoire list – Phil Spector in year

Groove: Shuffle, Medium swing

Latin: Bossa-1 & Cascara-1

Improvisation: 12 Bar Blues, triads within form.

Technique/books: Drumset rudiments; Syncopation coordination; Ensemble hits sheet; Alan Dawson book introduction

Sophomore Level

Perform assigned solos by memory from repertoire list – Max Roach/Art Blakey

Grooves: Polled w/ brushes

Latin: Partido Alto & Mambo



Improvisation: 12 Bar Blues, trade over form.

Technique/books: Drumset rudiments; Syncopation coordination exercises; Ensemble hits sheets; Alan Dawson book introduction

Sophomore Level

Perform assigned solos by memory from repertoire list – Max Roach/Art Blakey

Grooves: Ballad w/ brushes, more swing tempos 3/4 swing and straight eighth,

Latin Rumba, Afro-Cuban, Mambo, Partido Alto-2 & Mambo-2

Improvisation: Rhythm changes trade over form

Technique/books: New Breed systems 1-8, Dawson's H.C.U. Exercise

Inner Division I (end of 2nd semester sophomore level)

Proficiency in all material assigned in the first two years.

Junior Level

Perform assigned solos by memory from repertoire list –

Grooves: Up tempo swing, Second line

Technique/books: John Riley's exercises

Improvisation: 3/4, 32 bar standards.

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Breed Systems 9-16, Dawson's Rudiment Ritual memorize half, John Riley begin exercises and eighth note exercises

Junior recital (*required based upon degree program*)

Senior Level

Perform assigned solos by memory from repertoire list – T.S. Williams/Jack DeJohnette

Technique/books: New Breed systems 17-30, Dawson's

Improvisation: Odd meter (five & seven)

Technique/books: Advanced Alan Dawson exercises, New Breed systems 17-30, Dawson's

Senior Recital (*required based upon degree program*)