



SACRAMENTO STATE

School of Music

PIANO STUDIES

The Piano Program at Sacramento State offers students the opportunity to pursue Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, and Master of Music degrees. In addition to weekly private lessons and performance/repertory classes for exploring the literature and developing solo playing, students have opportunities to take courses in chamber music, vocal accompanying and piano pedagogy. Regular instruction by three resident piano faculty is supplemented by master classes with visiting artists. Instruction in jazz piano is available. In addition to required recitals, a performance with the Sacramento State Symphony Orchestra is possible through an annual competition. Numerous opportunities for collaborative experience and employment are available to qualified pianists within the music department and in the Sacramento area. Competitive merit-based scholarships are available.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Prior to acceptance into degree programs, students must pass an entrance audition. The following includes requirements and suggested solo works. Memorization is required. Sight-reading will also be evaluated. To discuss acceptable audition literature, contact professors Richard Cionco at rcionco@csus.edu or (916) 278-7983 or Kirsten Smith at kirsten@csus.edu or (916) 402-5053 (cell phone, call or text).

Freshmen: Bachelor of Arts

A Prelude and Fugue or an Invention by J.S. Bach, or similar contrapuntal piece, plus at least one other contrasting piece, from a different style period, from the standard repertory for piano, are required. Selection(s) may be drawn from sonatas, preludes, suites, etudes and short pieces by such composers as Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin, Liszt, Bartók, Mozart and others.

Freshmen: Bachelor of Music (Performance)

A Prelude and Fugue by Bach or similar contrapuntal piece, plus at least two other contrasting pieces, from different style periods, from the standard repertory for piano, are required. Selections may be drawn from sonatas, preludes, suites, etudes and other pieces by such composers as Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin, Liszt, Bartók, Mozart and others.

Junior Level Transfers: Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Music (Performance)

All transferring students in piano are required to play an entering audition during the academic semester prior to anticipated entrance. On the basis of both the audition and an evaluation of prior piano study, the student may be enrolled in one of four levels of lower division piano. After one semester of study, the student is re-evaluated and may be advanced to upper division status. Repertory requirements and procedures for transfer student auditions are the same as above relative to program of study.

Master of Music (Performance), Performers Certificate

Representative works from the applicant's Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Music senior recital or comparable repertory. Three or four pieces expected.