Missouri State | SCHOOL of THE ARTS
Department of Music

Jury Standards and Rubric: Organ

As of Fall 2026. *Please note any differences for BM, BME, BA, or BS and levels.

Jury Standards

MUS 298: Sophomore Barrier Jury

In addition to regular jury expectations, the barrier includes:

Program Length

- BM, BME: minimum of 15 minutes
- BA, BS: minimum of 8 minutes

Repertoire Requirements

- BM, BME: repertoire must include at least three of the following categories
- BA, BS: repertoire must include at least two of the following categories
    - One Baroque work
    - One Romantic or Impressionist piece
    - One 20th/21st-century piece
    - A standard hymn, choral anthem, or piece of service music

Passing Requirements

To pass the sophomore barrier, students must:

- Earn a grade B or higher
- Demonstrate readiness for upper-division study, with strong artistic growth, technical fluency, and stylistic understanding.

Students who do not pass may be assigned remedial study or required to delay upper-division lessons.

MUS 398: Junior Recital

To complete MUS 398, students must:

- Present a public recital of at least 30 minutes of music
- Demonstrate solid technique, mature artistry, and stylistic breadth
- Complete a hearing at least two weeks prior to the recital to demonstrate readiness for public performance

Successful completion of MUS 398 is required prior to MUS 498.

MUS 498: Senior Recital

The senior recital represents the capstone musical experience for Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education degrees.

To complete MUS 498, students must:

- Present a public recital of at least 45 minutes of music
- Show advanced artistry, technical command, stylistic depth, and stage maturity
- Complete a hearing at least two weeks prior to the recital to demonstrate readiness for public performance

The senior recital should reflect a comprehensive and mature artistic profile, demonstrating the student's full development as a pianist.

The minimum repertoire requirements for each program are listed below. Exceptions can be made to best meet student needs.

BA/BS

These repertoire requirements prepare students to lead a worship service and are consistent with the Service Playing Examination of the American Guild of Organists. The requirements are one baroque work, one romantic work, one 20th-century work, two hymns, and a choral accompaniment.

BME

These repertoire requirements prepare students to audition for graduate programs in sacred music, lead a worship service, and accompany on the organ. The requirements are one major work by J.S. Bach, a major romantic work, a major 20th-century work, two hymns, a choral accompaniment, and an instrumental accompaniment.

BM

These repertoire requirements prepare students to audition for graduate programs in performance or sacred music, lead a worship service, and accompany on the organ. The requirements include:

- One major work by J.S. Bach
- One prelude or three chorale preludes by another German Baroque composer
- One suite from a Couperin Organ Mass
- A movement from a French Symphonist
- A work by a German or English romantic composer (Reger, Mendelssohn, Howells)
- A 20th-century French work (Alain, Messiaen)
- A 20th or 21st century American work

- Two choral accompaniments
- Two instrumental accompaniments
- Four hymns in different styles
- One Psalm with refrain and one Anglican Psalm

Rubric

See next page.

Keyboard Area

Organ Jury Grading Rubric

RATING	NOTE ACCURACY	RHYTHMIC ACCURACY	REGISTRATION	ARTICULATION	MUSICALITY / EXPRESSION
9-10	Notes performed accurately. Technical passages are executed with security and confidence	Tempo, meter and rhythm are accurate and secure	Regisration is stylistically appropriate, balances voices, and supports musical goals	Articulation is appropriate for style and is effectively executed.	All aspects of musicality (phrasing, dynamics, shaping, tempo, direction, etc.) convincingly executed. Communicates understanding of form, style and emotional content
7-8	Inaccuracies interfere minimally with overall performance	Mostly accurate. A minimal amount of imprecise rhythms. Consistent tempo and meter	Registration is stylistically appropriate. Some concerns with balance of voices.	Articulation is mostly appropriate for music performed, with minimal problems in execution.	Most aspects of musical expression are effective, with only minor inconsistencies. Generally sensitive in musical expression
4-6	Minor errors interfere with the overall performance	Inconsistent rhythms. Tempo and rhythm need to be more accurate	Registration is stylistically appropriate. Frequent concerns with balance of voices. Errors in execution of registration changes.	Articulation is less than effective and/or is executed in ways that distract from the music	Musical expression is inconsistent. Greater attention to phrasing, shaping, and stylistic awareness needed
0-3	Numerous errors result in an ineffective performance	Tempo/meter inconsistent, imprecise rhythms	Lacks awareness for a stylistically appropriate registration and the means to achieve it	Lacks awareness of articulation and timing	Overall lack of musical expression. Little evidence of shaping, stylistic awareness, or expressive intent
Point Subtotal					
				Total Points	

Suggested grading scale(s):

BM Performance/MM/Certificate			BME		BA/BS/BM Composition/Minor/Non-major	
A	41 – 50	A	40– 50		38 – 50	A
B	33 – 40	B	28 – 39		26 – 37	B
C	25 – 32	C	19 – 27		17 – 25	C
D	16 – 24	D	11 – 18		10 – 16	D
F	0 – 15	F	0 – 10	0 – 19 F		