Freshman Audition Guidelines – Keyboards – Piano – Western Illinois University

I. For General Admission

A. Two contrasting pieces from the solo piano repertoire, comparable in difficulty to these minimum levels (memorization preferred but not required):

1. J.S. Bach - Selections from the Anna Magdalena Notebook, Clavierbüchlein, suite dance movements, Kleine Präludien und Fughetten, or Inventions

2. A Sonatina by Clementi, Kuhlau, Haydn, Beethoven or Mozart, or a movement from a Classical Sonata

3. Schumann or Tchaikovsky selections from the Album for the Young, Grieg Lyric Pieces, Mendelssohn Songs without Words, Chopin Preludes, Nocturnes or Mazurkas

4. Bartok Mikrokosmos, Kabalevsky Children's Pieces, Prokofiev Music for Children

B. Scales and arpeggios (major and minor)

C. Sight reading

II. For Performance

A. Minimum of two contrasting pieces from the solo piano repertoire, comparable in difficulty to these minimum levels (memorization required):

1. J.S. Bach any Prelude and Fugue from the Well-Tempered Clavier, a French Suite, or a sonata by Scarlatti or Soler

2. A sonata Allegro movement from the Classical era (Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven), or a substantial variation set

3. A substantial work from the Romantic era (i.e. Chopin Etudes, Brahms Waltzes, Intermezzi or Rhapsodies, Liszt Consolations or Liebesträume, Mendelssohn Songs Without Words, Schubert Waltzes or Impromptus, Schumann Fantasiestücke or Papillons)

4. A substantial work from the 20th Century (i.e. Debussy Preludes or Suite Bergamasque, Bartok Allegro Barbaro or Suite, Gershwin Preludes, Ginastera American Preludes, Muczynski Preludes, Prokofiev Visions Fugitives)

B. Scales and arpeggios (major and minor, four octaves)
C. Sight reading

III. For Jazz Studies

A. Performance of theory fundamentals to include major scales, arpeggios for major 7th, dominant 7th, and minor 7th, and chord structures

B. Performance of a jazz standard, including improvisation over at least one chorus (examples include Now's the Time, Tenor Madness, Take the A Train, Blue Bossa, All the Things You Are)

C. Sight reading (traditional grand staff reading, lead sheet interpretation, as well as traditional jazz ensemble part reading)