

BMS Cello Curriculum

To pass any level for the Young Artists' Certificate, a student must receive an average score of "pass" (from a scale of needs improvement / pass / pass with honors) from a panel of at least three faculty judges.

Repertoire, Methods, Collections, etc. are samples and establish technical and artistic benchmarks. Faculty may use any resources that achieve these benchmarks.

Repertoire alternatives for the evaluation must be approved by the department chair by the start of second semester.

LEVEL ONE:

Essential skills/goals to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Comfortable body position and proper instrument placement
- Ability to play in tune in one position, recognizing basic finger patterns
- Developing basic bow grip, straight bow, and variety of bow strokes
- Playing pieces of different character and tempo
- Demonstrates ability to play in extended position in addition to regular (closed) position

Level One Evaluation Requirements:

- Four one-octave scales with arpeggios
- One etude
- One piece

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level One:

Etudes:

- | | |
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| ● Benoy, Burrows | The First Year Cello Method |
| ● Cunningham | The Art of Scales |
| ● Dotzauer | Vol. 1 |
| ● Feuillard | Methode de Jeune Violoncelliste |
| ● Hindemith | Elementary Training for Musicians |
| ● Lee | 40 Melodic Studies Vol. 1 |
| ● Sassmannshaus | Cello Vol. 1, 2 and 3 |

Literature:

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| ● Bach | Duets for Young Cellists |
|--------|--------------------------|

- Barber, B. Simple Folk Songs
- De'ak Modern Method for Violoncello, vol. 1 up to approx. pg. 30
- Martinu Suite Miniature
- O'Reilly Strictly Classics (duets)
- Ticciati The Young Cellist

LEVEL TWO:

Essential Skills/Goals to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Secure and flexible body position
- Mastering positions 1 through 3 and proper shifting
- Vibrato on long notes, simple double stops and chords
- Consistent bow grip, comfortable string crossing and bow distribution
- Variety of phrasing and dynamics

Level Two Evaluation Requirements:

- Four two-octave scales and arpeggios
- One etude
- Two contrasting pieces, at least one from memory

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Two:

Etudes:

- Klengel Technical Exercises Vol. 1
- De'ak Modern Method for Violoncello, vol. 1
- Dotzauer Etudes Vol. 1 and 2
- Feillard Le Jeune... Vol. 2 -5
- Franchomme 12 Etudes
- Gruetzmacher Etudes without Thumb Position
- Lee 40 Melodic Studies
- Mooney Position Pieces,, Vol. 1

Literature:

- Bach Suites 1, 2
- Hindemith Three Easy Pieces
- Jarnefelt Berceuse
- Klengel Concertino in C
- Sammartini Sonata
- Squire Tarantella
- Squire Danse Rustique

LEVEL THREE:

Essential Skills/Goals to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Balance body position, ability to recognize and avoid tension
- Ability to shift to higher positions
- Consistent vibrato, comfortable double stops and chords
- Variety of bowings, including off the string
- Playing with more expression and making more stylistic choices

Level Three Evaluation Requirements:

- Six three-octave scales and arpeggios
- One etude
- Two contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Three:

Etudes:

- Three-octave scales from Klengel, Galamian, Starker and set of arpeggios
- Scales in double stops from Mooney, Feuermann
- De'ak Modern Method for Violoncello, vol. 2
- Dotzauer Volume 2 and 3
- Gruetzmacher Etudes with Thumb position
- Klengel Technical Exercises through 4 octaves
- Mooney Thumb Position Vol. 1 & 2
- Sevcik 40 Variations

Literature:

- Beethoven Variations Judas Maccabaeus
- Cassado Solo Suite
- Dvorak Rondo
- Foss Capriccio
- Granados Danza Espanola No. 2
- Hindemith Trauermusik
- Kodaly Suite Op. 8
- Saint-Saens Le Cygne
- Webern Drei Kleine Stucke
- **Sonatas:**
 - Corelli d minor
 - Kodaly sonatina
 - Locatelli

Martinu
Mendelssohn G and D

LEVEL FOUR:

Essential Skills/Goals to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Comfortable and consistent posture
- Mastery of the entire fingerboard, ability to shift fast
- Variety of vibrato styles, mastery of double stops and chords
- Advanced bow technique and style appropriate application
- Development of personal sound and style

Level Four Evaluation Requirements:

- All major and minor 3-octave scales and arpeggios
- One Etude
- Three contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized
- Separate from audition: Presentation of all repertoire in a 20-30-minute Solo recital

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Four:

Etudes:

- Four-octave scales from Klengel, Sevcik, Matz or comparable book
- Scales in Thumb Position from Mooney, Matz, Starker or comparable book
- Piatti Caprices
- Popper High School of Cello Playing
- Matz Thumb Position
- Sevcik 40 Variations

Literature:

- Faure Elegie
- Tchaikovsky Pezzo Capriccioso
- Schuller Fantasy, Op. 19
- Bach Suites 5 & 6
- Bruch Kol Nidrei
- Paganini Variations on a Theme
- Penderecki Divertimento
- Schubert Sonata
- Ysaye Sonata Op. 28 for solo cello

- **Sonatas with piano**
 - Barber
 - Beethoven
 - Prokofiev
 - Rachmaninov
 - Bridge
 - Faure
 - Strauss
 - Weill

Concerti

- Boccherini
- Elgar
- Haydn C Major
- Herbert
- Kabalevsky
- Lalo
- Schumann

PRE-CONSERVATORY LEVEL:

Essential Skills/Goals to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Comfortable and consistent posture
- Mastery of the entire fingerboard, ability to shift fast
- Variety of vibrato styles, mastery of double stops and chords
- Advanced bow technique and style appropriate application
- Development of personal sound and style

Pre Conservatory Level Evaluation Requirements:

- All major and minor 3-octave scales and arpeggios
- One Etude
- Three contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized
- Separate from audition: Presentation of all repertoire in a 20-30-minute Solo recital

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Four:

Etudes:

- Four-octave scales from Klengel, Sevcik, Matz or comparable book

- Scales in Thumb Position from Mooney, Matz, Starker or comparable book
Piatti Caprices
- Popper High School of Cello Playing
- Matz Thumb Position
- Franchomme Etudes
- Sevcik 40 Variations

Literature

- Britten Three Suites for Cello
- Chopin Polonaise Brillante
- Carter Figment No. 2 – Remembering Mr. Ives
- Crumb Sonata for Cello Solo
- Harbison Solo Suite
- Ligeti Sonata
- Paganini Variations on a Theme
- Rorem After Reading Shakespeare
- **Sonatas with piano**
 - Bartok First Rhapsody
 - Bridge
 - Debussy
 - Faure
 - Frank
 - Hindemith
 - Kabalevsky
 - Poulenc
 - Shostakovich

Concerti

- Barber
- Dvorak
- Finzi
- Haydn D
- Khatchaturian
- Korngold
- Shostakovich
- Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations
- Vieuxtemps
- Walton