

College of the Arts

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Commercial Bass - Electric & Acoustic

Bassists should prepare two pieces of contrasting style, one slow and one fast, which demonstrate range, tone, and technique. The audition will also include some sight-reading.

ACOUSTIC BASS

Student should bring acoustic bass with bow and any necessary accessories (cords, tuner, etc.).

Warm-up/Technical:

Student should be prepared to demonstrate technical exercises, such as:

Scales:

- Major and minor (natural/harmonic/melodic)
- Modes
- Pentatonic/Blues scales

Scales should be played:

- In position (2+ octaves)
- Starting from any root
- In eighth or sixteenth notes, at steady tempo
- Optional: arco

Performance:

Three jazz standards, in differing styles and tempos, such as:

- Autumn Leaves (as a ballad)
- There Will Never Be Another You (medium up)
- Sudden Samba (Latin)

Optional: a piece from classical repertoire

Jazz performances should include one chorus playing the head, one chorus walking a bass line, and one chorus improvisation.

Note: Teacher can provide accompaniment (jazz), or the student can play a backing track from a phone.

Sight Reading:

Student will be asked to demonstrate sight-reading skills, including:

- Chord chart in popular and/or jazz style
- Standard notation

ELECTRIC BASS

Student should bring electric bass and any necessary accessories (cords, tuner, etc.); an amplifier will be provided.

Warm-up/Technical:

Student should be prepared to demonstrate technical exercises, such as:

Scales:

- Major and minor (natural/harmonic/melodic)
- Modes
- Pentatonic/Blues scales

Scales should be played:

- In position (2+ octaves)
- Starting from any root
- In eighth or sixteenth notes, at steady tempo

Performance:

Student should perform the following:

Two jazz standards, in differing styles and tempos, such as:

- Autumn Leaves (swing)
- Sudden Samba (Latin)

Two songs in contrasting popular styles, such as:

- Pop
- Rock
- R&B/Funk
- Country

Performances should include one chorus playing the head, one chorus playing a style-appropriate bass line, and one chorus improvisation.

Note: Teacher can provide accompaniment (jazz), or the student can play a backing track from a phone (popular).

Improvisation:

Student should be prepared to improvise over:

- 12-bar blues progression (rock and/or jazz style)
- Major and/or minor key vamp (simple vamp and/or ii7 V7 I progression)

Note: Teacher will provide accompaniment

Sight Reading:

Student will be asked to demonstrate sight-reading skills, including:

- Chord chart in popular and/or jazz style
- Standard notation – reading written notes