



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

School of Music

College of Visual and Performing Arts

NIU String Audition Requirements

Please review and prepare all requirements thoroughly. Auditions are held in person at NIU in February, unless otherwise determined. Please register for an audition date on our website or at go.niu.edu/musicaudition.

If you are unable to attend NIU's official audition days, contact the Music Admissions Coordinator (avmenk@niu.edu) for permission to schedule an independent audition or obtain approval to submit an unedited video audition. Please bring copies of your music for the adjudication panel.

Undergraduates will complete an aural skills assessment at the time of audition. Sight reading exercises may be given at the time of audition for all applicants. Music Minor applicants are encouraged to follow the audition guidelines for the Major but are welcome to contact the appropriate faculty for approval of an alternative audition program.

Violin

Undergraduate:

- One study piece (ex. Mazas, Fiorillo, Gavinies, Kreutzer, Dont, Rode)
- 2 contrasting movements of differing styles from two separate works, i.e. a Concerto, solo work and/or Sonata

Graduate:

- Advanced Caprice (ex. Paganini, Dont, Rode)
- Movement of a major concerto
- One or more movements of Solo Bach

Questions? Contact Professor Blaise Magnière (bmagniere@niu.edu).

Viola

Undergraduate:

- A concerto, a sonata movement or a recital work.
 - Suggested Concertos – Bartok, Walton, Hindemith “Der Schwanendreher,” Stamitz, Forsyth
 - Suggested Sonatas – Brahms, Schubert, Clarke, Hindemith
 - Suggested Recital works – Bruch “Romanze,” Schumann “Fairy Tales,” Hindemith “Trauermusik”
- One or two movements of solo Bach

Please select two contrasting works for the above requirements.

Graduate:

- A concerto movement
- A sonata movement or recital work (see above for suggested repertoire)
- One or two movements of solo Bach

Please select three contrasting works for the above requirements.

Questions? Please contact Professor Anthony Devroye (adevroye@niu.edu).

Cello

Undergraduate:

- Two 3-octave scales
- Two selections contrasting in style from the standard repertoire, i.e. concerto, solo work, showpiece, or sonata
- An étude, i.e. Popper or Duport

Graduate:

- A movement of a major concerto
- Two contrasting movement of a Bach Solo Suite
- An étude, i.e. Popper or Piatti

Questions? Contact Professor Cheng-Hou Lee (clee@niu.edu).

Double Bass

Undergraduate:

- Two 2-octave scales Major and minor
- Two studies from an étude book such as Simandl, Bille', Storch, Slama
- Two movements or pieces of differing styles selected from bass literature

Graduate:

- Two 3-octave scales- Major and minor
- Two studies from an étude book such as Simandl, Bille', Storch, Slama
- Two movements or pieces of differing styles selected from bass literature
- A movement from a Bach Suite

Questions? Contact Professor Jeremy Attanaseo (jattanaseo@niu.edu).

Harp

Undergraduate:

- Major scales, arpeggios, and tonic glissandos (demonstrate at least one from each category)
- **One étude from the following:**
 - Conditioning Exercises, Carlos Salzedo; Method for Harp, Carlos Salzedo; Preludes Intimes, Carlos Salzedo; Études, Bochsa
- **One each from the following categories:**
 - *Ballet Excerpt:* Waltz of the Flowers cadenza, The Nutcracker; *Orchestral Excerpt:* Capriccio Espagnol, Rimsky-Korsakov; Scottish Fantasy, Bruch
 - *Opera Excerpt:* Madama Butterfly, Puchini; any other standard excerpt from a Wagner opera

Harp (continued)

- **One solo from the following:**
 - Concerto in B-Flat (first movement), Handel; Suite of Eight Dances, C Salzedo; Sonatine, M Tournier or Dussek; Colorado Trail, M Grandjany; Sonata in C minor, Peschetti

Graduate:

- One Baroque period piece
- One work by Handel, Dussek, or Peschetti
- One 20th century solo by Salzedo, Grandjany, Ravel, Faure, Hindemith, or other pertinent composer
- One orchestral excerpt of your choice

Graduate students should have at least three solos memorized.

Questions? Contact Professor Faye Seeman (fseeman@niu.edu).

Guitar (classical)

Undergraduate:

- One major and one minor scale
- One étude by Carcassi, Carulli, Sor, Villa-Lobos, or equivalent
- Two pieces of contrasting styles

Graduate:

- An étude by Villa-Lobos
- Two contrasting movement by J.S. Bach or equivalent
- A piece by 19th century composers such as Sor, Giuliani, Coste, Mertz or equivalent
- A 20th century work by Albeniz, Barrios, Brouwer, Falla, Ponce, Rodrigo, Torroba, Turina, Walton, or equivalent

Memorization is required for all auditionees.

Questions? Contact Professor An Tran (atran@niu.edu)