

# Level IV

Recommended reference: *Fundamentals of Piano Theory* (Level III)

## Technique Requirements (consult Appendix A for examples)

### Keys: Bb M/gm (harmonic form only)

(For Classical festival complete all technique in Major and then repeat in minor. Do chromatic scale at the end).

1. **Scales:** Hands together, one octave
2. **Chord Progression:** Hands together, I- IV<sup>6</sup>/<sub>4</sub> - V<sup>6</sup> - I (do not use V<sup>6</sup>/<sub>5</sub>)
3. **Arpeggios:** Hands together, 2 octaves
4. **Inversions:** Hands together, 1-1<sup>6</sup> - 1<sup>6</sup>/<sub>4</sub> - I, up and down
5. **Chromatic Scale:** Hands together, 1 octave, contrary motion, begin as thumbs on middle D

## Theory Requirements (Write and identify)

1. Notes and rest values



2. **Rhythm and-time signatures**

Simple meter:

Duple: 2/4 2/2  $\text{C}$  Triple: 3/4 3/2 3/8 Quadruple 4/4 4/2 C

3. **Key signatures:** Major: C, G, D, F and Bb  
Minor: a, e, b, and g.
4. **Scales:** Major: C, G, D, F, and Bb  
Minor: a, e, b, d, and g (harmonic form only)  
Chromatic: Ascending, beginning on any white note.
5. **Intervals:** Identify prime through octave by quantity and quality (major or perfect) based on the major scales of C, G, D, F and Bb
6. **Chords:** Major, minor, diminished, and augmented triads based on the tonics of major keys: C, D, F, and Bb and minor keys: a, e, b, d, and g.  
Primary triads in root position for major keys: C, G, D, F and Bb (I, IV and V) and minor keys: a, e, b, d, and g (i, iv and V) Use harmonic form of minor.

7. **Cadences:** Authentic and Plagal: All major and harmonic minor keys listed above.  
Write in root position  
Rewrite using common tones with inversions (IV6/4 - I and V6 - I for major)  
(iv6/4 - i and V6 - i for harmonic minor)

## Music History Requirements

**Periods of Music History** (dates are approximate).

**Baroque** 1600-1750

**Features:** Binary Form, Bouree, Minuet, Allemande, Gigue, Gavotte

**Composer:** J. S. Bach: German. Bach came from a musical family and had 20 children of his own. He wrote a great deal of music including the *Well Tempered Clavier* in 2 Volumes.

**Classical** 1750-1825

**Features:** Ternary Form, Alberti Bass, Sonatina, Balanced phrases in 2, 4 or 8 measures.

**Composer:** Ludwig van Beethoven: German. Beethoven was totally deaf during the last part of his life yet he continued to compose until he died. Two of his most loved piano pieces are *Fur Elise* and *The Moonlight Sonata*.

**Romantic** 1825-1900

**Features:** Waltz, an increased use of the pedal, character pieces, long melodies with lush accompaniments

**Composer:** Johannes Brahms: German. Late in his life Brahms destroyed everything he had written before he was 19. He wrote *Waltzes* and *Hungarian Dances*.

**Contemporary** 1900-present

**Features:** New tonalities, Nationalism, Unusual harmonies, scales and rhythms.

**Composer:** Bela Bartok: Hungarian. Bartok used the sounds and rhythms of Hungarian folk songs in much of his music. He wrote the *Mikrococosmos* (6 books) for piano students.

## Vocabulary

**Character or style**

**Molto:** very much

**Poco:** little

**Spiritoso:** spirited

## Form

**Dances:** minuet, bouree, allemande, gigue, gavotte (This is a list of dance forms, definitions are not required on this level).

**Theme and Variations\*:** A composition in which a theme is stated followed by any number of variations such as a change in mode, meter, accompaniment and texture..

**Sonatina:** a short sonata with 1, 2 or 3 movements which are usually contrasting in tempo and character..

**Coda:** ending section

## Tempo (listed slow to fast).

**Lento**

**Adagio:** slow (new).

**Andante**

**Andantino.**

**Moder**

**ato**

**Allegr**

**etto.**

**Allegro**

**Vivace:** lively and quick (new)

## Changing Tempo:

**Accelerando** (accel) gradually faster.

## Texture

**Homophonic:** Melody and accompaniment

**Polyphonic:** two or more independent voices.

## Other

### Pedal Signs

**Una Corda:** Depress the soft pedal

**Tres Corda:** Take the soft pedal off.