Jazz Drum Set Audition Requirements for Jazz Bachelor of Music Degree
James Dreier

1. Perform a prepared piece of the student’s choice. This could be a jazz drum set transcription, an improvised solo, a presentation/improvisation over a jazz standard or a published drum set solo.

2. Show fundamental 4-way coordination skills in a swing setting by playing the comping exercises from either John Riley book, “The Art of Bop Drumming,” Ted Reed's “Syncopation” or similar jazz method books.

3. Show familiarity with time-keeping skills and segmented soloing (in 4 or 8 bar phrases), demonstrating both familiarity and feel, in the following styles:
   a. swing (various tempos)
   b. funk
   c. Latin (samba, bossa nova, mambo – clave based, songo, Afro Cuban 6/8)
   d. Odd meters (3/4 waltz, 5/4 swing etc.)

4. Play a jazz standard of the student’s choice (either with or without play along tracks) and solo over one form section.

5. Sight read a standard big band chart, setting up figures, following the road map and accurately hitting given rhythmic figures

Jazz B.M. students must ALSO audition for, and be accepted into, the UI Percussion Studio as part of the 4-year jazz B.M. curriculum. Students can find information about that by following this link.