University of Idaho Lionel Hampton School of Music
B.Mus. in Music Composition Upper Division Standing Guidelines

Portfolio requirements (digital submission):
1. One finished score engraved using music notation software, duration minimum three minutes, with recording (live performance preferred, MIDI realization accepted)
2. Two scores of musical sketches, duration minimum one minute, no recording required

Thirty-minute presentation during juries with three music faculty present:
1. Present three pieces from portfolio, describing musical ideas and playing recording of finished piece.
2. Present on one major work composed in the last thirty years, to be determined individually for each student with composition faculty guidance.
3. Answer selected questions about the field, from list below.

List of questions about the field:
1. Name a favorite composer living today and describe their music, citing at least one specific piece.
2. Explain various types of motivic development (inversion, retrograde, augmentation, etc).
3. Explain how to write idiomatically for each of instrument, including voice.
4. Demonstrate understanding of basic elements of music (melody, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, timbre) and discuss how you could use each in an original composition.
5. Demonstrate familiarity with the “isms”: serialism, minimalism, diatonicism, chromaticism, neoclassicism, experimentalism, expressionism.