A Note on Graduate Grades

Here are two things you might find useful to know about graduate grades in the Jacobs School of Music.

1. Grades are up to you. You are welcome to consult with departmental colleagues to learn the local grading “culture,” but you should assign grades according to your own judgment and standards. You can also consult http://gradedistribution.registrar.indiana.edu/ for historical grade information by course number. Note that small courses are not listed to protect students’ privacy.

2. Graduate degree and diploma students are expected to earn certain minimum grades; grades below the minimums do not count toward requirements. Grades just below these minimums are the ones that most often lead to disputes and appeals. Here is a brief summary of the requirements; note that some departments have higher standards for certain courses.

Proficiency courses (master’s and doctoral degrees)
- M501: C or better
- T508 and T511: C or better; B for composition, choral conducting, orchestral conducting, music theory
- T509: C or better
- T545: B or better when used for Doctoral Styles requirement
- V150-250-350: C or better

Master’s degrees
- Major (incl. lessons, recitals): B or better
- Music history requirement: C or better
- Other required credits: C or better; average of B or better
- Ensemble: B or better

Doctoral degrees
- Major (incl. lessons, recitals): B or better
- Minors/Other required credits: C or better; average of B; B in each course in music theory minor
- Tool subjects: C or better (B or better for some PhD degrees)

Diplomas (PD/AD)
- Lessons: A- or better
- Recitals: A- or better
- Chamber Music: A- or better
- Music courses: C or better
- Ensemble: B or better

I hope this information is useful to you.

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