

Doctor of Philosophy: Composition

Major Area		Semester Credit Hrs
7530	Composition: Ph. D.	12
6540, 6541	Stylistic Studies in Orchestration I, II	6
6360, 6361	Adv Electro Comp I, II	6
7970	Thesis Research: Ph. D. <i>Composition</i>	7
7970	Thesis Research: Ph. D. <i>Research Essay</i>	7
Academic Courses	A total of 24-26 hours are required	
6010	Music Bibliography (if not taken for requisite Master's degree)	(2)
Music History & Literature:	Choose two courses	6
6610	Music Literature: Renaissance	
6620	Music Literature: Baroque	
6630	Music Literature: Classical	
6640	Music Literature: Romantic	
6650	Music Literature: 1900-Present	
6660	Music Literature: American	
6670	Symphonic Literature	
6680	Opera Literature	
	or Research Seminars with permission of instructor: Music 7800, 7801, 7802, 7803, 7804.	
Music Theory		18
6550	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18th and 19th Centuries I	
6551	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18th and 19th Centuries II	
6520	20 th /21 st Century Analysis I	
6521	20 th /21 st Century Analysis II	
Electives:	Choose two courses	
6536	History of Theory	
7510	Theory Pedagogy (must be taken by all entering TA's)	
6580	Special Topics in Music Theory (may be taken twice)	
6590	Tonal Writing Seminar	
Foreign Language:	Standard proficiency in either French, German, or Italian*	
Total Semester Credit Hours		62-64

Program Purpose

Recipients of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in composition are well versed in the subject matter and techniques of composition and music theory. A breadth of interest and originality of outlook that indicate real promise of success in composition is expected of all Ph.D. candidates; the demonstrated potential for on-going research, as well as competency in teaching composition and music theory are also expectations for successful graduates. All work leading to the degree is subject to the regulations and standards for scholarly work established by the Graduate School of the University of Utah.

Dissertation

The dissertation consists of 1) a compositional work of major scope, and 2) a research essay that makes an original contribution to theoretical/analytical fields of music research. The candidate may not begin the dissertation until all other requirements for the degree have been met and the supervisory committee has given written approval for work to begin on the composition and the essay (see the Graduate Secretary for the appropriate form). There are rare instances when the supervisory committee will consider approving the commencement of the dissertation in limited advance of the completion of some non-course related requirements. This exception is subject to the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee.

Appointment of Supervisory Committee

Selection and appointment of the members of the supervisory committee should be made by nomination of the candidate and should be made by the middle of the first term of study. Contact the Director of Graduate Studies or the Secretary of Graduate Studies for details.

Language Requirement

* "Standard proficiency" in French, German, or Italian must be demonstrated. In some cases, another language deemed appropriate by the supervisory committee for the particular candidate's study may be substituted.

"Standard proficiency" assumes a reading comprehension level expected of a student who has completed one year of college foreign language instruction or the equivalent. Students may verify standard proficiency in the following ways:

1. Complete a second semester language course, or the equivalent at another institution, with at least a B grade (3.0), or pass a fourth semester language course, or the equivalent, with at least a B grade (2.0); or
2. Pass the Graduate School Foreign Language Test with a score indicating standard proficiency.

*Consult the University of Utah Graduate School website for further information.

Acceptance into Music Composition

A candidate seeking acceptance in the Ph.D. program in composition must submit:

1. Evidence of a baccalaureate degree.
2. Evidence of a completed master's degree in music, or equivalent as determined by the composition faculty.
3. Up to four, but no fewer than two scores in different genres.

Following evaluation of the above materials by the composition faculty, the Director of Graduate Studies will inform the candidate, in writing, of his/her acceptance or rejection as a composition candidate.

Doctor of Philosophy students majoring in composition usually will have earned a master's degree before being admitted to the Ph.D. program.

Placement Examinations

All students who received baccalaureate degrees from institutions other than the University of Utah and all University of Utah graduates returning for graduate study after an absence of one academic year or more must take Graduate Placement Exams in (1) Theory and (2) Music History and Literature. Placement Exams cannot be taken until the University has accepted the student. Preparation material is available upon request from the Graduate Studies Secretary and is automatically sent to accepted students. Placement Examinations must be taken prior to registering for courses. Placement Examinations for Fall Semester will normally be given one week prior to the start of the term.

An individual entering as a non-matriculated student must take the placement exams in history and/or theory before taking courses in these areas.

The results of the Graduate Placement Exams are to help determine placement in graduate courses and to identify areas where remedial work may be necessary. Students are encouraged to study diligently for these examinations. Poor performance could result in the student being required to take a considerable number of remedial courses.

Music History Diagnostic Examination. The Music History Diagnostic Examination covers the breadth of Western art music from the Medieval period through the Twentieth Century. The student will be asked to discuss the styles and contributions of important composers, define important terms, identify representative musical scores, and write essays on topics of historical importance.

Music Theory Diagnostic Examination. The Music Theory Diagnostic Examination consists of a number of items, which determines the student's competence in harmony, voice leading, counterpoint and form. Composition students are tested on orchestration and instrumentation.