

# Master of Music: Composition

**Program Guidelines** 

Revised February 13, 2020

<b>Required Courses</b>		Credit Hrs
Bibliography		
MUSC 6010	Music Bibliography	2
Musicology	Choose one from the following:	3
MUSC 6610	Music Literature: Renaissance	
MUSC 6620	Music Literature: Baroque	
MUSC 6630	Music Literature: Classical	
MUSC 6640	Music Literature: Romantic	
MUSC 6650	Music Literature: 1900-Present	
MUSC 6660	Music Literature: American Music	
MUSC 6670	Symphonic Literature	
MUSC 6680	Opera Literature	
	or Research Seminars with permission of instructor (MUSC 6800,	
	6801, 6802, 6803, 6804, 6890)	
Area of Specialization		
MUSC 6550	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> Centuries I	3
MUSC 6551	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> Centuries II	3 3
MUSC 6520	20 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> Century Analysis I	3
MUSC 6521	20 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> Century Analysis II	3
MUSC 6530	Composition: Master's (2 semesters)	6
MUSC 6360	Advanced Electro-Acoustic Music Composition I	3
MUSC 6976	Composition Final Project: Master's (students must be concurrently	6
	enrolled in private lessons, MUSC 6530)	
(MUSC 7510)	Theory Pedagogy (must be taken by all entering TAs)	3
	Total Credit Hours	32 or 35

## Acceptance into the Master of Music in Composition

To be considered for admission to the MM in Composition, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 1. Hold a Bachelor's degree in music from an accredited institution.
- 2. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in all previous collegiate work.
- 3. Score an 85 or higher on the TOEFL iBT or a 6.5 or higher on the IELTS (international applicants only).

## Submit the following as part of the online Graduate Admissions application:

- 1. Transcripts of course work from all schools attended.
- 2. Three letters of recommendation from professors, employers, and/or other professionals qualified to judge the applicant's ability to successfully complete doctoral studies.
- 3. Statement of Purpose, including future goals.
- 4. Two or three original scores.
- 5. TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable.

Note: Applicant's application will be reviewed by a committee of faculty members within the composition area.

### **Graduate Placement Exams**

Placement examinations in Music History and Music Theory are taken after the student has been accepted by Graduate Admissions. Preparation materials are available on the School of Music website. Placement examinations must be taken prior to registering for Music History and Music Theory courses.

Results of graduate placement exams determine placement in graduate courses and identify areas in which 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. Students recommended for remedial courses must earn a B- or better in recommended courses before advancing to a higher-level course.

*Music History*: The graduate Music History diagnostic examination covers the breadth of Western art music from the medieval period to the present through a variety of questions evaluating the student's knowledge of important composers, works, terms, and concepts.

*Music Theory*: The graduate Music Theory placement examination assesses the student's competence in harmony, voice leading, counterpoint, form, and instrumentation. Composition students will complete an orchestration exam in addition to the theory exam.

**Appointment of Supervisory Committee** 

Members of the Supervisory Committee consult with the student in planning their degree program, research, and composition final project; they also administer the oral exams. It is the responsibility of the student to approach faculty to request that they serve on the Supervisory Committee. Students should submit the *Request for Supervisory Committee* form to the Academic Coordinator. The Graduate Studies Committee votes on and approves Supervisory Committees.

The student's composition project supervisor serves as the Chair of the Supervisory Committee. MM Supervisory Committees consist of three faculty members, the majority of whom must be tenure-line faculty in the School of Music. The Supervisory Committee is customarily chosen during the first year of study.

## **Required Compositions**

The candidate will have composed at least two major works during his/her studies. These works must be performed on the annual Student Composers' Concert during his/her residency.

#### Oral Exam

Upon completion of the composition final project, MM candidates will take a final comprehensive oral examination conducted by their Supervisory Committee in their final semester. The examination will emphasize substantive issues associated with the composition final project and cover additional topics from courses taken during the student's program.

All oral exams must be held before the last day of classes in the Fall and Spring semesters. Oral exams are not to be held during Final Exam or Reading Days or during Summer semester.