

Master of Music: Theory

Program Guidelines

Revised March 17, 2020

Required Courses		Credit Hrs
Bibliography		
MUSC 6010	Music Bibliography	2
Musicology	Choose two from the following:	6
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 6520	20 th /21 st Century Analysis I	3
MUSC 6550	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18 th /19 th Centuries I	3
MUSC 7510	Theory Pedagogy	
MUSC 6536	History of Western Music Theory	3 3
MUSC 6580	Special Topics in Music Theory	3
MUSC 6970	Thesis Research	6
	Choose one from the following:	3
MUSC 6521	20 th /21 st Century Analysis II	
MUSC 6551	Advanced Formal Procedures of the 18 th /19 th Centuries II	
	Total Credit Hours	32

Acceptance into the Master of Music in Theory

To be considered for admission to the MM in Theory, 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. Samples of past written work such as term papers or the results of independent research in subjects of a music theoretical nature.
- 5. TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable.

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

Appointment of Supervisory Committee

Members of the Supervisory Committee consult with the student in planning their degree program, research, and thesis; they also administer the thesis defense. 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 thesis 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.

Thesis

Before the student is allowed to register for Thesis research, he/she must have completed all course work and any outstanding incompletes. The thesis is an analytical paper suitable for publication, the details of which must be approved, in writing by the Supervisory Committee before the candidate begins work on it.

Thesis Defense

After completing the thesis and having obtained approval of it from the Supervisory Chair, the candidate will submit his/her thesis to the other members of the supervisory committee at least 6 weeks prior to the defense. All substantive changes requested by the committee must be made by the candidate two (2) weeks prior to the defense.

Upon completion of the thesis, MM candidates will complete a thesis defense conducted by their Supervisory Committee. Thesis defenses must be held in a neutral location and are open to the public. All defenses must be held before the last day of classes in the Fall and Spring semesters. Defenses are not to be held during Final Exam or Reading Days or during Summer semester.