MUSIC, PH.D.

The mission of the Mead Witter School of Music is:

- to provide a rich, integrated program of undergraduate and graduate education that promotes the highest levels of professional, creative, and scholarly development while challenging students to achieve their greatest potential;
- to cultivate an environment that inspires creativity, stimulates intellectual curiosity, and fosters critical thinking; and
- to serve the university community, the public, and the profession through performance, composition, scholarship, music education, outreach, and engagement.

The Mead Witter School of Music enriches students' educational experience by hosting guest artists and scholars for master classes, recitals, colloquia, seminars, and festivals. Its performing organizations and ensembles perform more than 350 recitals and concerts every year, making a significant contribution to the cultural life of the university and the wider Madison community.

DEGREES AND MAJORS

The Ph.D. in music, a research degree, is offered in the two areas of historical musicology and music theory.

Ph.D. degrees require significant work beyond the master's degree, including the extensive independent work described above. Each degree track varies slightly. See the Course Lists available through the Requirements tab for details on each track. Contact the Mead Witter School of Music graduate office, gradadmissions@music.wisc.edu, for further information about the Ph.D. music degree.

The Ph.D.—music program is suited to students who have proven their scholarly discipline, motivation, and ability to write fluently and cogently in the historical musicology or music theory fields. The principal outcome of the program is a dissertation that makes a significant contribution to the relevant major field. A minor field of study (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/music/music-doctoral-minor), required of all Ph.D.—music students, assures breadth in a field of study outside the major specialty. Proficiency in foreign languages supports research in the major field.

Each Ph.D. student benefits from the mentorship of multiple faculty members, whether from the student's own specialty or from other areas of scholarship or performance. An advisor is assigned upon the student's entering the program, and the musicology or music theory area faculty, as appropriate, participate in the preliminary examinations. The dissertation committee is designated with the student's particular research interests in mind. Through their guidance and support of the student through the degree program, faculty members offer multiple perspectives on the student's performance and research.

A summary of important information on academic policies for the Ph.D. program is available through the Policies (p. 4) tab. Complete information is available in the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook (http://www.music.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/SOM-Grad-Handbook-1.pdf). Since the School of Music offers the Ph.D. program under the aegis of the UW—Madison Graduate School, all Ph.D. students also need to be familiar with the UW-Madison Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy). In addition to the area faculty advisor, academic guidance is available through the director of graduate studies and the graduate office in the Mead Witter School of Music.

FACILITIES

The Mosse Humanities Building, built in 1969, houses most of the music classrooms, rehearsal rooms, faculty studios, and 111 practice rooms. Most recitals and concerts take place in one of three performance spaces: Mills Concert Hall, Morphy Recital Hall, and Eastman Organ Recital Hall. The school's extensive collection of instruments, both common and unusual, is available to both faculty and students. Music Hall with its clock tower, built in 1879, is a campus landmark. Renovated in 1985, it is the home of the opera program. The new Hamel Music Center is scheduled for opening in 2019 and will include a concert hall, a recital hall, and a large ensemble rehearsal space.

Memorial Library is the home of the Mills Music Library, which offers extensive research and circulating collections, attractive study space, and personal staff assistance with research. Music materials on campus number over half a million, ranging from scores and sheet music to archival collections and historic audio recordings. Through Mills Music Library and other UW–Madison libraries, students have access to a wide range of online research databases as well as millions of articles, books, and streaming media. All genres of music are represented, with notably strong collections in Americana and ethnic music. Nationally known special collections include the Tams–Witmark Collection, a treasury of early American musical theater materials, and the Wisconsin Music Archives.

The Mead Witter School of Music is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), the national accreditation body for schools of music, and was reaccredited in 2014.

ADMISSIONS

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>December 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td>Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (<a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a>). Every international student from a non-English speaking country must submit a TOEFL score of 85 or higher. The Mead Witter School of Music does NOT waive the TOEFL requirement for students who have completed a degree at an American university.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minimum admission requirements of the Graduate School apply to all applicants for graduate study in music. The Mead Witter School of Music has additional requirements. Applicants should have a master's degree in music or equivalent foundational course work as required by each area of study. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale, calculated on the last 60 credit hours) is necessary for full admission. The Ph.D. program in music involves substantial academic work and requires excellent reading, writing, and speaking skills. Therefore, all international students are required to submit a TOEFL score. See the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions website (http://www.music.wisc.edu/admissions/graduate) for information on minimum score requirements. The Mead Witter School of Music does not waive the TOEFL score requirement for students who have completed a degree at an American university. All Ph.D. applicants must submit a scholarly paper as part of the application. Ph.D. applicants are also expected to submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. A visit to campus for a personal interview is recommended, especially if the applicant wishes to be considered for financial aid. For details on specific audition requirements and additional application materials, visit the Mead Witter School of Music graduate admissions website (http://www.music.wisc.edu/admissions/graduate).

**FUNDING**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

Mead Witter School of Music offers teaching and project assistant appointments in music history, music theory, piano, conducting, voice, and other areas. These positions offer tuition remission plus a stipend and health care benefits. In addition, Mead Witter School of Music selects qualified applicants for the University Fellowship and Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. The UW–Madison Office of Student Financial Services assists students in obtaining general grants and loans. All Mead Witter School of Music students who receive funding are required to enroll full-time with 8–12 graduate credits.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

---

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mode of Instruction Definitions**

- **Evening/Weekend**: These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Online**: These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Hybrid**: These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Accelerated**: These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>51 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>32 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (26 credits out of 51 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (<a href="http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle">http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.25 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the first semester in which the cumulative GPA falls below 3.25 the director of graduate studies will notify the student in writing. After a second semester in which the GPA remains below 3.25 the student will be placed on probation for the next semester enrolled. This action suspends all financial aid awards through UW–Madison, though loans and work-study are not affected. Failure to raise the GPA to 3.25 or above in the probation semester results in the student’s withdrawal from the Graduate School and from the School of Music program.

To maintain satisfactory progress School of Music students on UW–Madison funding (teaching assistants, project assistants, fellows, and scholarship recipients) must maintain full-time status. A student’s satisfactory progress is also in jeopardy should a major project or recital be judged incomplete or deficient. Failure of one or more parts of the comprehensive examinations, preliminary examinations, or final defense is also considered a lapse in satisfactory progress.

For doctoral students, preliminary examinations are tools to evaluate the student’s curreny and knowledge of the major field and the minor area of study, but also to determine the readiness to embark on the final stage of research. The first part of the Comprehensive Examination is written, and the second part is an oral exam attended by the student’s committee members.

Once doctoral candidates have completed all their work, the oral defense is an opportunity for the dissertation (Ph.D.) or DPRC (DMA) committee to address the contributions made through the dissertation (Ph.D.) or the doctoral performance and research (DMA). No grades are reported on the transcript for these program-level examinations.

For all School of Music doctoral programs require proficiency at the intermediate level in at least one foreign language. Foreign language proficiency assures that the student has the tools needed to pursue comprehensive research in the major field. Details on foreign language requirements and ways to fulfill proficiency expectations are outlined in the course lists available through the Requirements tab for each degree. This information is also available in the advising worksheets for each degree major track.

### Historical Musicology Track

#### Required Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 911</td>
<td>Seminar in Musicology (every semester offered)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 821</td>
<td>Historical Music Theories 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 822</td>
<td>Historical Music Theories 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 799</td>
<td>Independent Work (requires approval of musicology faculty)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/FOLKLORE 915</td>
<td>Seminar in Ethnomusicology (one course required if offered)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 921</td>
<td>Current Issues in Musical Thought 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 925</td>
<td>Topics in Music Analysis 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 926</td>
<td>Topics in Music Analysis 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 927</td>
<td>Seminar in Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Coursework from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 923</td>
<td>Seminar in Notation (offered every two years)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Other Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 900</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC/LIS 619</td>
<td>Music Research Methods and Materials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSIC 923</td>
<td>Seminar in Notation (offered every two years)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Doctoral Minor

9–12 credits in a field other than the major specialty. See the Doctoral Minors page or the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook for details.

#### Language Proficiency

Intermediate-level proficiency is required in two foreign languages, one of which must be German. The second language may be French, Italian, or any other language which can be argued as essential to the proposed doctoral research. Each language requirement may be satisfied with:

- Four semesters of undergraduate-level study (completed within five years prior to matriculation), earning a grade of B or better in the final semester OR
- One semester of the following with a grade of B or better:
  - GERMAN 391 | German for Graduate Reading Knowledge I
  - ITALIAN 301 | Italian for Reading Knowledge
  - FRENCH 391 | French for Reading Knowledge
  - OR satisfactory completion of an approved language reading examination at the intermediate level.

Consult with the area faculty or with the Mead Witter School of Music graduate office for further details.

#### Preliminary Examinations
Preliminary examinations occur in the semester all of the above requirements are fulfilled. See the Policies tab or, for full information on policies and procedures, the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook for full information.

Preliminary examinations are administered by the Musicology area faculty.

After preliminary examinations continuous registration for exactly three research-related credits is required.

Dissertation

MUSIC 999 PhD Diss/DMA Project 1-3

Oral Defense

The oral defense is to be scheduled with the dissertation committee after ALL WORK is complete.

Total Credits 37-42

1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

Music Theory Track 1

Code   Title                                                                                   Credits

Seminars and Independent Work  21

The following courses are required:

MUSIC 821 Historical Music Theories 1
MUSIC 822 Historical Music Theories 2
MUSIC 823 Schenkerian Analysis
MUSIC 824 Post-tonal Analysis

Additional courses—2 seminars may be in Musicology

MUSIC 911 Seminar in Musicology
MUSIC 921 Current Issues in Musical Thought 1
MUSIC 923 Seminar in Notation (musicology)
MUSIC 925 Topics in Music Analysis 1
MUSIC 926 Topics in Music Analysis 2
MUSIC 927 Seminar in Composition
MUSIC 799 Independent Work

Other required courses 3

MUSIC/L I S 619 Music Research Methods and Materials 3
MUSIC 900 Colloquium 0

Doctoral Minor

9-12 credits in a field other than the major specialty. See the Doctoral Minors page or the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook for details.

Language Proficiency

Intermediate-level reading knowledge is required in two languages. Languages must be approved by the music theory area. The most common ways of meeting the language proficiency requirements are:

Four semesters of undergraduate-level study (completed within five years prior to matriculation), earning a grade of B or better in the final semester OR

1 semester of the following:

GERMAN 391 German for Graduate Reading Knowledge I

FRENCH 391 French for Reading Knowledge

ITALIAN 301 Italian for Reading Knowledge

OR satisfactory completion of an approved language reading examination at the intermediate level. Consult with the area faculty or with the Mead Witter School of Music graduate office for further details.

Students should note that the course credits as described above total 33 at minimum. Up to 11 additional credits (including Dissertation credits) may be needed to earn the degree minimum of 51 credits.

Preliminary Examinations

Preliminary Examinations occur in the semester all of the above requirements are fulfilled. See the Policies tab or, for full information on policies and procedures, the Mead Witter School of Music Graduate Handbook for full information.

Preliminary Examinations are administered by the Music Theory Area.

After preliminary examinations continuous registration for exactly three research-related credits is required.

Oral Defense

The oral defense is to be scheduled with the Dissertation Committee after ALL WORK is complete.

1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

Policies

Graduate School Policies

The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

Major-Specific Policies

Graduate Program Handbook

The Graduate Program Handbook (http://www.music.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/SOM-Grad-Handbook-1.pdf) is the repository for all of the program’s policies and requirements.

Prior Coursework

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

No more than 6 credits may be approved for graduate coursework taken at other institutions.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

The Graduate School allows departments to review requests to count up to 7 credits of undergraduate work at UW–Madison toward graduate program requirements, but this is rarely approved by the School of Music faculty.
**UW–Madison University Special**

Some students may have completed coursework at 300 level or above at UW–Madison as a Special Student; with program approval coursework so taken may be considered to fulfill up to 6 credits of graduate program requirements. However the Graduate School mandates that fees be paid in these cases.

**PROBATION**

Ph.D students who fail to make satisfactory progress in any of the following four areas: grades, course load, time constraints, or exams, will be notified in writing by the DGS. At the end of the second semester of failing to make satisfactory progress the student is placed on probation effective the next semester. This action suspends financial aid (but does not affect loans or work-study). For details see Satisfactory Progress for Doctoral Students (http://uwsom.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/DoctoralSatisfactoryProgressDocument.pdf).

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

All programs provide for faculty from several disciplines to follow the student’s progress through the degree, provide mentorship along the way, and assess the student’s success in reaching expected learning outcomes. Committee structures differ among degrees and majors. The principal advisor for most graduate students in the Mead Witter School of Music is generally referred to as the major professor.

In M.A. and Ph.D. programs the advisor may not be the eventual thesis or dissertation advisor. In all programs the major professor is determined with the student’s particular interests in mind. The director of graduate studies is also an advisor for all graduate students in Mead Witter School of Music programs. Students are expected to consult with the director of graduate studies at least once per semester to determine appropriate course plans. Consultation is mandatory in the semester before intended graduation.

Ph.D. students have two committees: a four-member preliminary examination committee composed of the major professor, minor professor, and two others determined by the area; and a dissertation committee with four faculty including the major professor and a faculty member from a program other than the major. Three of these four members must be graduate faculty.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Graduate students in DMA or Ph.D. programs are allowed a maximum of four calendar years from the date entering the program to complete all course work requirements and successfully pass the preliminary examinations. The candidate must complete the dissertation (Ph.D.) or doctoral performance and research (DMA) within five years after passing the preliminary examinations.

**OTHER**

n/a