

MUSIC THEORY - M.A.

College of the Arts
 School of Music
www.kent.edu/music

About This Program

Deepen your understanding of music theory, music analysis and the historical and cultural context of music with the M.A. degree in Music Theory. You'll develop analytical, aural, written, keyboard and pedagogical skills, preparing you for a range of career opportunities. Read more...

Contact Information

- Graduate Studies Coordinator: **Ben Lorenzo** | blorenz1@kent.edu | 330-672-2172
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Art, drama, and music teachers, postsecondary

- 5.6% faster than the average
- 116,300 number of jobs
- \$69,690 potential earnings

Music directors and composers

- 1.7% slower than the average
- 58,000 number of jobs
- \$52,250 potential earnings

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Music

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation

- Résumé
- Goal statement
- Academic paper written in English
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
 - Minimum 525 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
 - Minimum 71 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
 - Minimum 74 MELAB score
 - Minimum 6.0 IELTS score
 - Minimum 50 PTE score
 - Minimum 100 Duolingo test score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Summer Term**
 - Rolling admissions

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
MUS 58251	PEDAGOGY OF MUSIC THEORY	2
MUS 62411	MUSIC BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH METHODS	2
Advisor Approved Music (MUS) Elective		3
Advisor Approved Music Ensemble		2
Music Theory Electives, choose from the following: ¹		9
MUS 51141	16TH-CENTURY COUNTERPOINT	
MUS 51151	18TH-CENTURY COUNTERPOINT	
MUS 61121	HISTORY OF MUSIC THEORY	
MUS 61131	SCHENKERIAN ANALYSIS	
MUS 61173	WORLD MUSIC ANALYSIS	
MUS 61174	ANALYSIS OF WESTERN ART MUSIC	
MUS 61181	POST-TONAL THEORY	
MUS 61191	SEMINAR IN MUSIC SINCE 1900	
Music History Electives, choose from the following:		6
MUS 52131	MUSIC OF THE UNITED STATES	
MUS 52161	HISTORY OF JAZZ	
MUS 52181	POPULAR WORLD MUSIC	
MUS 62171	MUSIC FROM WORLD CULTURES	
MUS 62281	SEMINAR IN MUSIC HISTORY AND LITERATURE	
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
MUS 68199	THESIS I ²	6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		30

- ¹ Selection of music theory course is based on students' result from the theory placement exam. In the case of the exam results placing a student into MUS 51011 and/or MUS 51012, these courses will not count towards the M.A. degree and must be taken in addition to the music theory requirements.
- ² All students writing a thesis must pass a final oral examination covering the thesis and the student's major area of study. The final oral examination may be attempted two times.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Analyze music from a wide range of styles and style periods, and communicate results in written and oral formats.
2. Demonstrate and apply functional aural, written and keyboard skills.
3. Recognize, identify and analyze representative literature from different historical periods, countries and composers.
4. Communicate knowledge of music theory and other aspects of music as would be done in classroom and private teaching.

Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in Music Theory is designed to enhance music theory abilities of advanced students and to prepare them for admission to doctoral study. Based on a solid undergraduate music degree, the master's degree further develops abilities in music theory, including analytical, aural, written, keyboard and pedagogical skills. The program further develops breadth and depth in the area of Western music history and literature