

# MUSIC COMPOSITION - M.A.

## College of the Arts

School of Music  
E101 Center for the Performing Arts  
Kent Campus  
330-672-2172  
schoolofmusic@kent.edu  
www.kent.edu/music

## Description

The Master of Arts degree in Music Composition is designed to advance the music composition creative skills of advanced students and to prepare them for admission to doctoral study. The program emphasizes mastery of composition of large-scale works for media, including orchestra, choir, band and/or chamber music ensembles. Based on a solid undergraduate music degree, the M.A. 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.

## Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus

## Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Music

## Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale for unconditional admission
- Official transcripts(s)
- Résumé
- Goal statement(s)
- Portfolio of original compositions
- Three letters of recommendation
- 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.

## Program Learning Outcomes

1. Compile a body of completed compositions.
2. Demonstrate and apply compositional techniques for creation of new works including musical style and structure.
3. Analyze music from a wide range of styles and style periods and communicate results in written and oral formats.
4. Recognize, identify and analyze representative literature from different historical periods, countries and composers.
5. Communicate knowledge of composition, theory and other aspects of music as would be done in classroom and private teaching.

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
MUS 58251	PEDAGOGY OF MUSIC THEORY	2
MUS 61211	COMPOSITION (repeated)	8
MUS 62411	MUSIC BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH METHODS	2
MUS 68199	THESIS I <sup>1</sup>	6
Music (MUS) Electives		0-2
Music Ensemble		2
Music History Electives, choose from the following:		4-6
MUS 52131	AMERICA'S MUSIC	
MUS 52161	HISTORY OF JAZZ	
MUS 52171	MUSIC FROM WORLD CULTURES	
MUS 62511	MUSIC HISTORY I	
MUS 62521	MUSIC HISTORY II	
MUS 62531	MUSIC HISTORY III	
MUS 62541	MUSIC HISTORY IV	
Music Theory Electives, choose from the following: <sup>2</sup>		6-7
MUS 51141	16TH-CENTURY COUNTERPOINT	
MUS 51151	18TH-CENTURY COUNTERPOINT	
MUS 61131	SCHENKERIAN ANALYSIS	
MUS 61171	ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES I	
MUS 61172	ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES II	
MUS 61173	WORLD MUSIC ANALYSIS	
MUS 61181	POST-TONAL THEORY	
MUS 61191	SEMINAR IN MUSIC SINCE 1900	
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		32

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 41111, the undergraduate course will not count towards the M.A. degree and must be taken in addition to the graduate-level music theory requirements. MUS 61171 and MUS 61172 may be required.