

MUSIC THEORY - COMPOSITION - PH.D.

College of the Arts

School of Music

E101 Center for the Performing Arts

Kent Campus

330-672-2172

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www.kent.edu/music

Description

The Ph.D. degree in Music Theory–Composition prepares composers, research scholars and college/university teachers in the areas of music theory and composition. This degree program is based on the premise that original composition of high quality requires a strong background in theory, and that significant scholarship in theory requires experience in original composition.

Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus

Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Music

Admission Requirements

- Master'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 transcript(s)
- Resume
- Goal Statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Substantial term paper on a theoretical topic or a master's thesis in music theory written in English
- Minimum three scores of original compositions demonstrating a variety of genres (chamber, orchestral, piano, choral, etc.)
- 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

Graduates of this program will be able to:

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 in classroom and private teaching.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
MUS 71121	HISTORY OF MUSIC THEORY	3
MUS 71131	SCHENKERIAN ANALYSIS	3
MUS 71181	POST-TONAL THEORY	3
MUS 71191	SEMINAR IN MUSIC SINCE 1900	3
MUS 78251	PEDAGOGY OF MUSIC THEORY	2
MUS 81211	COMPOSITION (course is repeatable)	8
MUS 88199	DISSERTATION I ¹	30
	Music History Electives	4-6
	Music (MUS) Electives (Related Studies) ²	4-6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		60

¹ Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for MUS 88199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter MUS 88299, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met. All students writing a dissertation must pass a dissertation defense. Dissertation defense may be attempted two times.

² Electives must have been approved in student's prospectus.

Candidacy Requirement

This examination will normally be taken when the student has substantially completed his/her coursework and has received the consent of the advisory committee to attempt the examination. The written portion of the examination will cover the major and supportive areas of study and will be followed by a comprehensive oral examination. Students who fail the candidacy examination two times will be dismissed from the doctoral program.

Residency Requirement

Students in the Ph.D. must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours of study within one calendar year in residence.