

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF MUSIC
DIVISION OF MUSIC HISTORY, THEORY, AND ETHNOMUSICOLOGY
www.music.unt.edu/mhte

MUSIC THEORY STUDENT HANDBOOK

(2010-2011)

Updated August, 2010

The Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology is a diverse and distinguished community of musician-scholars united by a love of learning, dedicated to the highest standards of academic integrity, and committed to meeting the educational needs of our students and the larger community with exceptional teaching, scholarship, and musical activity.



The Music Theory Handbook is an official College of Music publication that serves as an informational guide for all students in the Music Theory program. Information concerning the College of Music and degree/course descriptions may be found in the College of Music Student Handbook, the University of North Texas catalogs, and online at <http://www.unt.edu/catalogs/catsched.htm>.

Graduate Program in Music Theory College of Music University of North Texas

The graduate program in Music Theory at the University of North Texas provides advanced instruction in the diverse sub-disciplines currently found in the profession and thus prepares students for a career as college or university theory professors. The curriculum includes studies in analytical techniques covering the entire history of Western musical practice (specialized methodologies as Schenkerian studies and set theory approaches as well as historically established methodologies); applied studies in contrapuntal composition; history of music theory with direct study of treatises; music theory pedagogy with on-site involvement in class instruction. Emphasis is placed upon the acquisition of and development of fluency in basic music skills (sight-singing, ear-training, realization of part music at the keyboard). During their period of study, students are mentored and encouraged to present scholarly papers at local, national and international conferences and to submit essays to scholarly journals in the field of Music Theory. The culmination of graduate study in Music Theory at UNT is a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation, in which the student develops an original line of thinking in the context of a contribution to the field of Music Theory.

Graduate Placement Examination for all CoM Graduate Students

All new College of Music graduate students must take the Graduate Placement Examination (GPE) or sign a waiver stating that they will complete the courses for each examination waived. The GPE covers theory, music history and music literature. The examination is given each long semester during the week of registration and orientation. The GPE may be retaken only one time and only by master's students who have failed any individual exam by 5 points or less. If remedial course work is assigned based on the results of the GPE, the student must enroll in these courses in the first semester the specified courses are offered. Description, schedule and information concerning the use of test results are available in the Office of Graduate Studies in Music.

Master of Music Degree Program

Students seeking the master's degree in Theory should consult the Coordinator of Graduate Theory, Dr. Graham Phipps, in preparing a tentative program. By the completion of 12 semester hours, the student should file a degree plan and form an advisory committee comprised of a major professor and two other faculty members.

Lecture Series Attendance Requirement

Each graduate student with a declared major in musicology or music theory is expected to attend all lectures presented in the Division of Music History, Theory and Ethnomusicology Lecture Series during each long term/semester of full-time enrollment (9 hours).

Major in Theory

The Master of Music with a major in theory offers one option: (1) the traditional 32-hour degree with thesis.

The following courses are required for a 32-hour program of study.

- MUMH 5010, Introduction to Research in Music, 3 hours
- MUTH 5080, Pedagogy of Theory, 3 hours
- MUTH 5090, Problems in Pedagogy of Theory, 3 hours
- MUTH 5355, Analytical Techniques I, 3 hours
- MUTH 5360, Analytical Techniques II, 3 hours
- MUTH 5370, Analytical Techniques III, 3 hours
- MUTH 5400, Invertible Counterpoint and Fugue, or MUTH 5470, Advanced Schenkerian Analysis, 3 hours
- Elective in music history or literature, 3 hours
- MUGC 5950, Master's Thesis, 6 hours
- Piano, 2 hours

Master's Thesis

Graduate students in music theory should consult the Master's Thesis Guidelines link at the division web site (www.music.unt.edu/mhte) for formatting, content, and stylistic suggestions for the master's thesis proposal. Thesis proposals must be submitted and, if necessary, revised and re-submitted to the Graduate Academic Degree Committee in a timely manner.

Degree Requirements

Before the degree is granted, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (thesis defense) covering the thesis and, if applicable, the field of concentration. The examination may be taken no more than three times.

Teaching Assistantships

Teaching Assistantships may be available depending on the needs of the Music Theory Area. Students interested in applying for a TA-ship should see Dr. Joan Groom, Coordinator of Music Theory. Applications are competitive and should be submitted in a timely manner. See Cory Ando in the Graduate Studies Office for deadlines and the proper forms. Graduate students are eligible for up to four years of funding for teaching assistantships/fellowships from the division. Funding opportunities available through the Toulouse Graduate School include the MDF (master's/dissertation fellowship), the TDF (a fellowship awarded for master's thesis and doctoral dissertation completion), and a limited number of graduate tuition packages.

Additional Requirements

Before applying for graduation in this degree, the student must pass an examination testing reading knowledge of one foreign language.

The foreign language proficiency in German or French, may be satisfied in one of the following ways.

1. Passing the UNT Reading Proficiency Examination (a two-semester accelerated course to prepare students for this examination is offered by the language department).
2. Two years of a foreign language with at least a B average for all four terms/semesters.

Evidence of Satisfactory Progress

Students must maintain a minimum overall B average and must have no grade lower than B in courses counting toward the degree. Students with a grade point average lower than 3.0 will be placed on probation for one term/semester. Students not fulfilling the conditions of probation will be dismissed from the program by majority vote of the faculty.

Doctor of Philosophy

The Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in music theory requires a minimum of 60 semester hours beyond the master's degree. A maximum of thirty hours may be transferred from other institutions at the discretion of GADCom of the College of Music. Under special circumstances, students may be admitted to the program after completing a bachelor's in Music Theory. A master's degree from an accredited institution usually is accepted for the first 30 hours. The minimum residence requirement consists of two consecutive long

terms/semesters (fall and the following spring, or spring and the following fall) with a minimum load of 9 hours each term/semester.

It should be understood that the Doctor of Philosophy degree cannot be earned by routine work alone, regardless of accuracy or amount. The degree will be conferred, rather, on the basis of mastery of the field of music as a whole and of proven ability either to plan and carry out an original investigation (in music theory) with distinction.

This curriculum provides opportunities for students to engage in study that will prepare them for professional careers in theoretical research and in teaching. Students are required to engage in considerable research activity in the seminar environment, as well as to develop the pedagogical skills necessary to communicate results of that research.

Admission to the degree program occurs in three steps: (1) acceptance into the doctoral program in music theory; (2) permission to enroll in course work; and (3) admission to doctoral candidacy.

Acceptance into the Doctoral Program

Application for acceptance into the doctoral program is made by a letter submitted to the graduate coordinator of music theory. The following supplementary materials should accompany this letter:

1. an academic resume;
2. three letters of recommendation by persons who know the applicant personally, professionally and academically; and
3. a portfolio that provides evidence of professional activity. The latter includes at least two substantial term papers or one term paper and a compositional assignment from a counterpoint or advanced harmony class.

Upon the completion of twelve hours of doctoral work, the student will select a major professor under whose counsel a degree plan is devised and submitted to the Graduate Studies Office.

Permission to Enroll in Course Work

To obtain permission to enroll in course work, the student must:

1. apply for admission to UNT through the graduate school (an evaluation of the student's transcript will determine deficiencies in course work);

2. submit an acceptable score on the general test (verbal and quantitative) of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE);
3. attend all orientation sessions scheduled by the director of graduate studies in music;
4. take the Graduate Placement Examination (GPE) given by the College of Music; and
5. complete the appropriate deficiency courses the first term/semester they are offered.

Last 60 Hours of Study

- MUTH 6660-6670, History of Music Theory, 6 hours
- MUTH 6680, Proseminar in Music Theory, 12 hours, four 3-hour seminars
- MUTH 6700-6710, Analytical Systems I and II, 6 hours
- 3 hours selected from MUCP 6200, and MUMH 6000, 6020, 6030, 6740, 6750, 6760 and 6770
- Electives, 6 hours
- Related field, 12 hours
- MUGC 6950, Dissertation, 12 hours

Twelve credits may be used to establish a minor or related field. If degree credit is to be given for applied music, the student must pass the master's-level entrance audition in performance prior to enrollment for these credit hours. The student who does not pass, or take, the audition may study applied music, but this credit will not count toward the 60 hours required for the degree.

Language Requirements

Proficiency in two languages, German and a second language subject to the approval of GADCom, is required. These requirements may be satisfied in one of the following ways.

1. Passing the UNT Reading Proficiency Examination (a two-semester accelerated course to prepare students for this examination is offered by the language department).
2. Two years of a foreign language with at least a B average for all four terms/semesters. Those opting to satisfy the language requirement in this way must have completed a similar course of study at an accredited university no earlier than three years prior to enrollment in the program. The course of study must be completed no later than the term/semester prior to attempting the qualifying examinations.

Pre-Qualifying Examinations

A keyboard examination and a contrapuntal problem examination must be taken and passed by the applicant before taking the qualifying examination.

Every Ph.D. student in Music Theory must satisfy a keyboard proficiency and contrapuntal writing proficiency before taking the qualifying examinations.

1. The keyboard proficiency may be satisfied either by taking the course, MUTH 5110 (Score Reading at the Keyboard) with a grade of B or better, or through an examination which may be arranged with the Graduate Theory Coordinator. The examination may be taken no more than three times.
2. The counterpoint proficiency may be satisfied by passing MUTH 5400 with a grade of B or better or through examination which may be arranged through the Graduate Theory Coordinator. The examination may be taken no more than three times.

Evidence of Satisfactory Progress

Students must maintain a minimum overall B average and must have no grade lower than B in courses counting toward the degree. Students not meeting this standard will be placed on probation. Students not fulfilling the conditions of probation may be dismissed from the program.

Related or Minor Field, 12 hours (select one)

Related Field: Choose from one of the following areas of study: collaborative piano, conducting, jazz studies, music education, music theory, music medicine, musicology or performance. Specific courses to be determined in consultation with the chair of the related field. (See "Related Field Course Requirements" above.)

Minor Field: Choose a minor field of study outside of music in consultation with the major professor. Select appropriate courses in that field in consultation with a minor field advisor.

Qualifying Examinations

The qualifying examination is a general review covering all fields of music study, with particular emphasis on the student's major field. The examination may not be taken until the language and pre-qualifying examination requirements are satisfied, or before all course deficiencies have been removed. Qualifying examinations are administered in November and

March of each year. Students should check the Theory website for the dates of the qualifying examinations.

Candidates should be prepared to spend three full days on the written examination. An oral examination is subsequently scheduled.

DESCRIPTION OF THE QUALIFYING EXAMS

The examination consists of three written components (Analysis, History and Methodology). Each component includes 6 hours of examinations subdivided into smaller parts as given below. Each part will be accompanied by specific questions or instructions.

All parts of the qualifying examination will be graded by members of the theory faculty. The grade of "pass" or "fail" will be given as a single grade for each of the three components. An added oral examination may be assigned by the graders for borderline grades on any or all components.

Each sub-section of the three component examinations may be taken a maximum of three times.

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy

To be accepted into Ph.D. candidacy in music theory, the student must have completed the following:

1. all course work, including deficiency courses and a related or minor field of 12 hours.
2. Pre-qualifying exams (1 and 2);
3. the PhD language requirement
4. In addition to the completion of the above, to obtain admission to doctoral candidacy in music theory, the student must pass qualifying examinations. These examinations seek to confirm that the student has a broad knowledge in and about the fields of music theory and musicology, and in-depth knowledge in and about selected areas within those fields. Specific policies and procedures related to the qualifying examinations are the responsibility of the Music Theory area.

Dissertation

The culmination of the doctoral work is a dissertation of appropriate scope, quality and originality. The dissertation proposal will be presented to GADCom after successful completion of the qualifying examination. At this time, upon being admitted to candidacy, the student must maintain continuous dissertation enrollment (MUGC 6950) each long term/semester until the dissertation has been completed and accepted by the graduate dean. Registration in at least one summer session is required if the student is using university facilities and/or faculty time during that summer session. The final copies of the dissertation must be placed in the hands of the major professor at least two weeks before the scheduled oral examination in any given term/semester. The oral examination will be scheduled after the dissertation has been completed and accepted by the major professor, and before the last day for filing dissertations in the office of the graduate dean, as announced in the Academic Calendar. The department chair must be allowed to examine a copy of the completed dissertation *before* it is delivered to the office of the Dean of the College of Music.

The Dissertation Defense

The candidate will defend the completed dissertation before the doctoral committee and any other interested faculty, students and members of the academic community. The successful defense is indicated by the signatures of all members of the doctoral committee. This examination may include the following:

1. General bibliography (principal books and periodicals in the main field of music).
2. Music (familiarity with the principal classics in chamber music, orchestral, piano and vocal repertoire, including solo, opera, oratorio and choral music).
3. The special field(s) or the dissertation to include:
 - a. the special bibliography of these fields; and
 - b. questions on the candidate's information derived from sources in the requisite foreign languages.

The final oral examination may be taken no more than three times.

Teaching Fellowships

A limited number of Teaching Fellowships are available on a competitive basis. Students should see Dr. Joan Groom, Coordinator of Music Theory, for more information. Students should submit an application to Cory Ando in the Office of Graduate Studies. Check the Graduate Studies bulletin board for deadlines. Students awarded Teaching Fellowships must be in good standing and make satisfactory progress on their degree plan.

Music History, Theory, Ethnomusicology Lecture Series Attendance

Each graduate student with a declared major in music theory is expected to attend all lectures presented in the Division of Music History and Theory Lecture Series during each long term/semester of full-time enrollment (9 hours).

GAMuT: The Graduate Association of Musicologists and Theorists

All students in MHTE are encouraged to attend regularly scheduled meetings and events of GAMuT, the Graduate Association of Musicologists and Theorists (www.unt.edu/mhte). Open to all, undergraduate majors in music history and theory are also invited to attend these events for professional development and networking with ones colleagues. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Graham Phipps.

Music Theory Faculty

Gene Cho, Regents Professor; Ph.D., Northwestern. Music and culture of China and Japan; pedagogy of music theory.

Paul Dworak, Professor; Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon. Developing models of pitch recognition; general models of music cognition.

Joan C. Groom, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Eastman. 20th-century analysis; principles and methods of theory pedagogy.

Frank Heidlberger, Professor; Ph.D., Würzburg. Western music history; romantic and modern opera; music aesthetics of the 19th century; compositional techniques in the 20th century; opera-dramaturgy;

Timothy Jackson, Professor; Ph.D., New York. Music of the 19th and 20th centuries; Schenkerian theory.

Laila Kteily-O'Sullivan, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., North Texas. Pedagogy of music theory; aural skills acquisition; undergraduate music theory core.

Graham H. Phipps, Professor; Ph.D., Cincinnati. History of music theory from 1700 to the present; the Second Viennese School; analysis procedures for music from Gregorian chant to the 20th century.

Stephen Slottow, Associate Professor; Ph.D, New York. American traditional music; the American ultramodernists; atonal theory; Schenkerian analysis.

Thomas Sovik, Professor and Director of Central European Studies and Exchanges; Ph.D., Ohio State. History of music theory in central Europe during the Medieval and Renaissance; popular music in American culture.

For further information contact:

Dr. Lynn Eustis, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies
(940) 565-7544; lynn.eustis@unt.edu

Cory Ando, Administrative Assistant, Graduate Studies Office
(940) 565-3721; cory.ando@unt.edu

Dr. Eileen M. Hayes, Associate Professor, Chair, Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology; Chair of the MHTE Graduate Academic Degrees Committee.
(940) 565-3761; eileen.hayes@unt.edu

Dr. Graham Phipps, Professor, Coordinator of Graduate Music Theory;
Faculty Advisor, GAMuT
(940) 565-4566; graham.phipps@unt.edu

Dr. Joan C. Groom, Associate Professor, Coordinator of Music Theory
(940) 565-4792; joan.groom@unt.edu

Dr. Steven Friedson, Professor, Coordinator of Ethnomusicology
(940) 565-7541; steven.friedson@unt.edu

Dr. Margaret Notley, Associate Professor, Coordinator of Music History
(940) 565-3751; margaret.notley@unt.edu

Mrs. Kathy Turnipseed, Administrative Assistant, MHTE
(940) 565-8724; kathy.turnipseed@unt.edu