

The Master of Music degree in Music Theory (Thesis Track) is intended for students planning to pursue an academic career in music theory or a closely related field. Graduates of the program will be qualified to apply to doctoral programs to continue their training. The curriculum, encompassing research seminars as well as classroom teaching skills, introduces students to the field while fostering intensive development of their speculative and practical knowledge.

Major Studies:

MUS 600: Bibliography	3 credits
MUS 615: Pedagogy of Theory	3 credits
MUS 691E: General Readings in Music Theory	3 credits
MUS 691K: Post-Tonal Theory OR	
MUS 691S: Schenkerian Analysis	3 credits
MUS 699: Thesis	6 credits

Other Music Studies:

THEORY AND HISTORY: Three required (2 theory + 1 history) from the approved courses listed on pages 13-14 of this document	9 credits
THEORY, HISTORY, EDUCATION, PEDAGOGY: One required from among the approved courses listed on pages 13-14	2-3 credits*
Ensemble	2 credits

Electives:

Non-Theory Electives	1-2 credit
Total for the MM in Music Theory (Thesis Track):	33 credits

*Students enrolling in a 2-unit course must also take 2 elective credits.

Musicianship Exam: This exam is divided into two parts. Part I is a written exam in composing two-voice species counterpoint in the style of Fux and four-part voice leading in tonal contexts (e.g., realize a figured bass by Corelli or harmonize a chorale melody). Part II is a keyboard exam that includes the following at sight: (1) score reading (all standard clefs and transposing orchestral instruments); (2) harmonization of a chorale melody in four voices; (3) figured-bass realization; and (4) the demonstration of common chords and techniques in tonal contexts with proper voice leading (e.g., secondary dominants, augmented sixth chords, pivot-chord modulation to closely and distantly related keys, harmonic sequences). The exam is administered at the end of each semester by the Coordinator of Music Theory and one other member of the theory faculty. Each part of the exam is graded pass/fail. Students may attempt the exam or any remaining part(s) of the exam once per semester.

Thesis: Working in conjunction with the Coordinator of Music Theory and the Graduate Program Director, students must form a thesis committee no later than the beginning of their third semester of coursework. Before proceeding to work on a thesis, students must complete a thesis proposal (a document, typically 15–20 pages in length, that lays out the scope, depth, and methodology of the thesis), which must be approved by their committee. For more information on the thesis process, candidates should consult *Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations* published by the Graduate School.