

DMA in Music (Music Composition)

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School of Music, Dance and Theatre graduate check sheet and guide

A total of 90 credit hours, a foreign language exam, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, prospectus and a dissertation are required for the degree program. Students with a completed master's degree from an accredited institution recognized by the ASU Graduate College may be approved for up to 30 blanket hours toward the DMA (depending on master's coursework), leaving 60 credit hours of coursework to complete. Shaded sections of the check sheet represent possible blanket credit hours from a master's degree. See **ASU Graduate Policies and Procedures**.

Major Area - Composition and Music Technology and Electives (30 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC		Composition	3			Master's level May include thesis credits
MTC		Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			Doctoral Level
MTC	723	Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			
MTC	723	Composition	3			
		Music Technology	3-6			Selected in consultation with the supervisory committee
		Music Technology				
		Elective	6-9			Review section on elective coursework below.
		Elective				
		Elective				

Music Theory and Musicology (30 credit hours)

Doctoral coursework may not be cross-listed with undergraduate-level courses

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MHL	532	Music Bibliography	3			Required in DMA if not taken in MM
						Include if MHL 532 taken in DMA
MHL			3			
MTC	525	Pedagogy of Music Theory	3			Required in DMA if not taken in MM
						Include if MTC 525 taken in DMA
MTC			3			
			3			MHL or MTC
			3			
			3			
MHL			3			
MHL			3			
MTC			3			
MTC			3			

Research (12 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	792	Research	12			Can be taken over the course of four semesters at 3 credits each.
MTC	792	Research				
MTC	792	Research				
MTC	792	Research				

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	799	Dissertation	12			Creation of a significant original work of music, considered to be a dissertation, and either two article-length research papers or a substantial paper
MTC	799	Dissertation				
MTC	799	Dissertation				
MTC	799	Dissertation				

Student Handbook

The student handbook should be used in conjunction with this degree check sheet. The current handbook can be found on the Music SharePoint site: <https://arizonastateu.sharepoint.com/sites/HIDAstudent/SOM/Pages/handbooks.aspx>.

Degree Requirements

There are several milestones you need to complete prior to graduating:

1. Take and pass all of the coursework required for your degree and concentration.
2. File a Plan of Study (mid-point of your studies, by the third semester of coursework) via the interactive iPOS system located on your My ASU page. You should also have an approved supervisory committee.
3. Successfully pass one foreign language exam or a designated reading for knowledge course through the [School of International Letters and Cultures](#) as approved by your committee.
4. Successfully pass written and oral comprehensive exams at the end of your coursework.
5. Successfully complete and defend a research paper prospectus (must be completed no later than the semester prior to the defense semester)
6. Successfully complete a dissertation culminating in an oral defense within ten years of admission

Graduate Coursework

Every course taken for a doctoral degree must have a graduate course number (500+). You will not receive graduate credit for courses at the 400-level or below. You may take courses at the 400-level or below, but the courses will not count toward your degree. The courses are divided into three categories: Studies in Major Area, Other Studies in Music and Electives. There are sub-categories within the studies in major area that are to help you when filing your plan of study.

Studies in Major Area (51-54 credits)

MTC 723 Composition (18 credits, three credits per semester for six semesters)

XXX XXX Music Technology (3-6 credits selected in consultation with your faculty advisor)

MTC 792 Research (12 credits in any combination over several semesters throughout coursework)

MTC 799 Dissertation (12 credits in any combination over several semesters throughout coursework)

Other Studies in Music - Music Theory and Musicology (30 credits)

You must take four courses at the doctoral level. Two courses (3 credits each) must be in musicology or ethnomusicology (MHL prefix). Two courses (3 credits each) must be in Music Theory (MTC prefix). 500-level courses that are double-listed as a 400-level course may not be used toward the MHL/MTC requirement. In special cases, a substitution may be allowed. Visit the [MHL + MTC Course website](#) for more information. MHL 532 Bibliography and MTC 525 Pedagogy of Music Theory must be completed at the doctoral level if it was not taken in the MM level. You must complete all MHL/MTC requirements before you are eligible to take your written and oral comprehensive exams.

Electives (6 - 9 credits)

The elective area of the check sheet allows you to customize the degree to meet your specific career interests and needs. Ensembles or additional lessons may count here. You may also take courses elsewhere on campus, as approved by your advisor, but must be at the graduate level to count towards your degree.

Degree Checklist

Complete your Foreign Language			
File a Plan of Study	FILED ON	APPROVED ON	
Schedule Comprehensive Exams	WRITTEN DATES	ORAL DATE / PASSED ON	
Schedule Prospectus Exam	TITLE		PASSED ON
Review Defense Timelines	TITLE		PASSED ON

Graduation Checklist

Attend Steps to Graduation Workshop	PLANNED ATTENDANCE SEMESTER/YEAR		ATTENDED ON
Submit Z-Y Spreadsheet	Due October 1/February 15/June 15 during graduation term		COMPLETED ON
Check Plan of Study Committee	Committee changes are not permitted after defense scheduled		COMPLETED ON
Defense Date	LAST DAY TO DEFEND See Defenses	YOUR DEFENSE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Chair submits Defense Request Form	DEADLINE 15 working days (3 weeks) before defense	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Schedule Defense on My ASU	DEADLINE 10 working days (2 weeks) before defense	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Submit Document for Format Approval	DEADLINE 10 calendar days before defense	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Submit Final Format Approval Revisions	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Complete Survey of Earned Doctorates	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE	SUBMITTED TO GRADFORMAT@ASU.EDU ON
Final Pass/Fail Form Submitted	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON
Upload Document to ProQuest	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE	COMPLETED ON

SAMPLE PLAN OF STUDY

Most students take three years (not including summers) to finish the degree. Here is a typical full-time plan.

Coursework (# of credit hours)	Priority Tasks
SEMESTER 1	

MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 792 Research (3) MHL or MTC Course (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results from your graduate diagnostic exam in theory and musicology should be reviewed by faculty advisor. MHL 532 Bibliography should be completed if not taken in MM. MTC 525 is only offered each fall semester consider taking either in first or second fall semester. MTC 792 Research and MTC 799 Dissertation credits should be discussed with faculty advisor. Consult the MHL + MTC website for DMA eligible courses in Music Theory. Consider what electives might interest you both in the school and in other academic units. Join a student group, chamber ensemble, etc. Students on F-1/J-1 visa should discuss Curricular Practicum Training option with advisor and Julie Krause in the School of Music, Dance and Theatre Office of Academic Affairs.
SEMESTER 2	
MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 792 Research (3) MHL or MTC Course (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin process to identify a research topic with faculty advisor. Begin to identify which faculty members (see Student Handbook) will serve on your graduate committee. Begin planning your Foreign Language Exam timeline or plan on taking the Reading for Knowledge course.
SEMESTER 3	
MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 792 Research (3) MHL or MTC Course (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign Language requirements should be completed by end of semester and you should notify the School of Music, Dance and Theatre Office of Academic Affairs when requirements have been met. MTC 525 is only offered each fall semester consider taking either in first or second fall semester. Meet with Julie Krause to fill out your Plan of Study and ensure that you are on track to degree completion.
SEMESTER 4	
MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 792 Research (3) MHL or MTC Course (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update any course changes on your plan of study by the end of the fourth semester. Finalize your graduate committee.
SEMESTER 5	
MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 799 Dissertation (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the Steps to Graduation Workshop. Review Defense deadlines and procedures. Last semester to submit Doctoral Proposal Result form if graduating in semester 6. Deadline is last day of final exams week. Committee Chair reserves space for written and oral comprehensive exams assuming foreign language requirements have been met.
SEMESTER 6	
MTC 723 Composition (3) MTC 799 Dissertation (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Chair schedules Defense Apply for graduation through MyASU by October 1 (fall graduation) or February 15 (spring graduation)