

# DMA in Music (music composition)

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# School of Music, Dance and Theatre program of study check sheet and guide

This document is designed to help you navigate plan your academic coursework. The DMA in Music with a concentration in music composition requires 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.

## Major Area - Composition, Music Technology and Electives (36 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 faculty advisor.
		Music Technology				
		Elective	6-9			Selected in consultation with faculty advisor. Can be outside of department.
		Elective				
		Elective				

## Music Theory and Musicology (30 credit hours)

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. You must complete all MHL/MTC requirements before you are eligible to take your written and oral comprehensive exams.

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	5XX or 6XX		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				

## DMA Check Sheet Guide

### Student Handbook

The student handbook should be used in conjunction with this degree check sheet. The current handbook can be found on the student canvas site. Students should also review the [ASU Graduate Policies and Procedures](#) handbook.

### Degree Requirements and Timeline

There are several milestones and requirements throughout the DMA program in addition to the required coursework listed above. All work towards a doctoral degree must be completed within ten consecutive years from the semester of entry.

Task/Milestone	Timeline
Diagnostic Exams	Summer before first semester (June 15)
File Program of Study	Second semester (spring)
Two Foreign Language Exams	It is recommended that both languages be completed within the first two years of coursework and no later than the end of the fourth semester.
Written Comprehensive Exam	After completion of coursework
Oral Comprehensive Exam	Scheduled after written exam is complete. Can be scheduled in same semester as the written exam or in a later semester as approved by the committee.
Dissertation Prospectus Defense	Complete no later than one semester before your defense date and could be many semesters before the defense semester.
Dissertation Defense	Graduation semester

### Dissertation Defense Timeline - Completed in final semester

Task/Milestone	Timeline
<a href="#">Review Steps to Graduation Workshop</a>	By the end of the first week of class.
Plan of Study Review	One semester before Defense semester or by the end of the first week of classes in final semester.
<a href="#">Submit Z-Y Spreadsheet</a>	Oct. 1. for fall graduation/Feb. 15 for spring graduation/Jun. 15 for summer graduation

<a href="#">Apply for Graduation</a>	Oct. 1. for fall graduation/Feb. 15 for spring graduation/Jun. 15 for summer graduation
Determine Defense Date	At least 3 weeks before Defense.
Chair submits the Defense Request Form	A minimum of 15 working/business days (3 weeks before date)See the Defense page for current semester deadlines.
Schedule Defense in My ASU and upload document to iPOS for format review	A minimum of 10 working/business days (2 weeks) before the Defense date.
Submit final format revisions to ASU Graduate College	See the Defense page for current semester deadlines.
Complete Survey of Earned Doctorates	
Upload document to ETD/ProQuest	

### Graduate Curriculum Breakdown

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 DMA in Music with a concentration in music composition is accredited through the National Association for Schools of Music (NASM) and meets the curricular guidelines as indicated below.

#### Studies in Major Area (51-54 credits)

MTC 723: Composition (doctoral level, 6 terms) (18)  
MTC 523: Composition (master's level) (6)  
Music Technology (3-6 credits selected in consultation with faculty advisor)  
MTC 792: Research (12)  
MTC 799: Research and Dissertation (12)

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

MTC 525: Pedagogy of Theory (3)  
MTC: Music Theory electives (9)  
MHL 532: Music Bibliography (3)  
MHL 5xx or MHL 6xx Musicology or Ethnomusicology electives (9)  
MHL/MTC electives (6)

#### Other Electives (6-9)

Graduate coursework chosen in consultation with faculty advisor (6-9)

**NOTE:** students may be exempt from completing MHL 532 in the DMA but need prior approval. See handbook for more information.

## Sample Plan of Study

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

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