

This program requires 32 credit hours and a written comprehensive exam. In addition to the written comprehensive exam, you may need to complete an oral comprehensive (at the advisement of the committee). A final culminating experience is also required. Students may elect either the thesis-track (MTC599) or the applied project track (MTC 593) and should consult the composition faculty regarding which track is best. Use this document to assist with filing your Plan of Study (required by the university) and to track your progress in your degree.

Required Core (6 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	523	Advanced Composition	3			
MTC	523	Advanced Composition	3			

Concentration (9 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
AME			3			Coursework taken in consultation with advisor.
AME			3			
AME			3			

Culminating Experience (6 credits)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	593 or 599	Applied Project or Thesis	6			You may register for either MTC or AME thesis section and should consult your advisor. An original composition that demonstrates master of composing for the selected performance medium and the coherent organization of musical materials. Taken in final semester.

Concentration - Music Theory and Musicology (9 credit hours)

Two courses must be in musicology and one course in music theory. If you plan to complete a doctoral degree at some point, you may wish to fulfill one of your musicology course requirements with MHL 532 Bibliography. You must complete at least two of your three [MHL/MTC requirements](#) before you are eligible to take your written comprehensive exam.

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MHL			3			
MHL			3			
MTC			3			

Electives (5-6 credit hours)

Electives in fields related to the student's research including, but not restricted to, electrical engineering, computer science, anthropology, psychology, and art. Selected in consultation with supervisory committee and AME Graduate Advisor. May be additional courses in musicology or music theory.

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes

Academic Advising

Your composition professor will serve as your faculty advisor and can assist you with coursework selection. Additionally, the School of Music, Dance and Theatre Office of Academic Affairs will assist you with filing your plan of study and can be reached by contacting Julie Krause (Julie.A.Krause@asu.edu)

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

All work toward a master's degree must be completed within six consecutive years from the semester of entry.

- Consult with your faculty on whether you should pursue the thesis path or the applied project path.
- Take and pass all of the coursework required for your degree.
- File a Plan of Study (second semester) via the interactive iPOS system located on your My ASU page. You should also have an approved supervisory committee.
- Successfully pass the written comprehensive exam in your final semester of coursework.
- An oral comprehensive exam may be required after your written comprehensive exam. Consult with your committee.
- Applied project students: successfully complete your applied project by presenting in front of your committee in the final semester. A grade of "B" or better is required for the project.
- Thesis students: successfully complete a thesis defense in the final semester.
- Apply for Graduation in your final semester of study.

Graduate Coursework

Every course taken for a master's 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. When courses are double listed under both 400-level and 500-level numbers, always take the 500-level section. Courses at the 600- or 700-level are usually for doctoral students and require permission from your faculty advisor and the instructor of the course. You may take 600-level courses, but check first with the instructor or your faculty advisor. The MM degree in Music Composition (interdisciplinary digital media) is accredited through the National Association for Schools of Music (NASM) and meets the curricular requirements as indicated below.

Studies in Major Area (21 credits)

AME XXX Coursework selected in consultation with AME advisor (9 credits)

MTC 523 Advanced Composition (two semesters) (6)

MTC 593 Applied Project or MTC 599 Thesis (6)

Other/Supportive Studies in Music (8-9 credits)

MHL Elective (3)

MTC Elective (3)

MHL/MTC Elective (2-3)

Electives (5-6 credits)

Coursework to allow students to customize the degree to meet specific career interests and needs.

Thesis Graduation Defense Checklist

Attend Steps to Graduation Workshop	PLANNED ATTENDANCE SEMESTER/YEAR	ATTENDED ON
Submit Z-Y Spreadsheet	Due Feb.15 or Oct. 1 during graduation term	COMPLETED ON
Check POS 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
Student Schedules Defense on My ASU	DEADLINE 10 working days (2 weeks) before defense	YOUR DUE DATE COMPLETED ON
Submit Document for Format Approval	DEADLINE 10 working days before defense	YOUR DUE DATE COMPLETED ON
Submit Final Format Approval Revisions	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE COMPLETED ON
Upload Document to Plan of Study	DEADLINE See Defenses	YOUR DUE DATE COMPLETED ON

Sample Plan of study for two years of coursework

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

Coursework	Priority Tasks
SEMESTER 1	
MTC 523 Advanced Composition (3) AME coursework (3) MHL or MTC coursework (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results from your graduate diagnostic exam in theory and musicology should be reviewed by your faculty advisor. Check your ASU ID Sun Card for access to the practice rooms. 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. Consider what electives might interest you both in the school and in other academic units. Join a student group, chamber ensemble, etc. If wishing to do a DMA, consider taking MHL 532 Bibliography (required for a DMA degree).
SEMESTER 2	
MTC 523 Advanced Composition (3) AME coursework (3) MHL or MTC coursework (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with Julie Krause to fill out your Plan of Study and ensure that you are on track to degree completion.
SEMESTER 3	
AME coursework (3) MHL or MTC coursework (3) Elective coursework (2-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify faculty members (see Student Handbook) to serve on your graduate committee. Update your Plan of Study with the names of your committee and any course changes by the end of the semester.
SEMESTER 4	
MTC 593 Applied Project (6) or MTC 599 Thesis (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend the Steps to Graduation Workshop with the School of Music, Dance and Theatre Office of Academic Affairs. Confirm that you have an approved full committee in your Plan of Study before the graduation deadline. Schedule and complete defense. Apply for graduation through MyASU by October 1 (fall graduation) or February 15 (spring graduation). Register for the master's written comprehensive exam at least 3 weeks prior to the exam date. See the Master's Comprehensive Exams website for exam dates and registration details. RSVP to Graduation ceremonies through your My ASU. Order Graduation regalia.