

This document is designed to help you navigate your academic coursework. The DMA in Music with a concentration in interdisciplinary digital media requires a total of 90 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, prospectus and a dissertation. 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.

Required Core (25-27 credit hours)

Music Theory: 12-19 credit hours and Musicology: 6-15 credit hours, minimum three courses in MTC and one in MHL. 500-level courses that are double-listed as a 400-level course may not be used toward the MHL/MTC requirements. In special cases, a substitution may be allowed.

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
MTC	525	Pedagogy of Music Theory	3			Required in DMA if not taken in MM
						Include if MTC 525 taken in DMA
MTC			3			
MHL			3			Review Other Studies in Music section below
MTC			3			
MTC			3			
			7-9			MHL or MTC Electives

Concentrations (33 Credit Hours)

Composition Concentration (12 Credit Hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	523	Advanced Composition	3			
MTC	523	Advanced Composition	3			
MTC	723	Advanced Composition	3			
MTC	723	Advanced Composition	3			

Arts, Media and Engineering Concentration (21 Credit Hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
AME			3			AME Core selected in consultation with the AME graduate advisor
AME			3			
AME			3			

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Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
AME			3			AME courses selected in consultation with the AME graduate advisor
AME			3			
AME			3			
AME			3			

Electives (9-11 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.

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	599	Thesis	3			Blanket Hours
MTC	599	Thesis	3			Blanket Hours

Research (9 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	792	Research	9			Can be taken in any combination
MTC	792	Research				
MTC	792	Research				

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)

Prefix	#	Title	Hours Needed	Hours Taken	Semester/Year	Notes
MTC	799	Dissertation	12			Can be taken in any combination
MTC	799	Dissertation				
MTC	799	Dissertation				
MTC	799	Dissertation				

Your Degree Guide, Timeline and Best Practices

Academic Advising

Your studio 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)

MDT Graduate Student Resource Site

Enroll in the [MDT Graduate Student Resources site](#). The site is where you can find your handbooks, academic forms, and other important information related to your studies.

Student Handbooks

There are student handbooks that you should reference throughout your degree. Your handbooks are meant to help you understand various policies and procedures required for your studies.

- The Graduate Music Handbook
- The [ASU Graduate Policies and Procedures](#) Handbook
- Students with a TA should also review the [TA/RA Policies and Procedures](#) Handbook through the ASU Graduate College

Tips on Selecting Coursework

Each semester, the courses offered in musicology (MHL) and music theory (MTC) are listed on the student canvas site. Courses are offered on a rotational basis and are not necessarily offered every semester. The MTC courses are identified as either an analytical or non-analytical course. Refer to the MDT Graduate Student Resources Canvas site for the most current list of course offerings.

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
Complete diagnostic exams in musicology and music theory	Before your first semester (Jun. 15 for fall admission)
File Program of study	Third semester. Schedule an appointment with the Office of Academic Affairs.
Complete the foreign language requirement	Select two foreign language exams. Both language exams or courses must be completed before scheduling the written comprehensive exam.
Finalize your committee	Must be finalized on your plan of study before you take your written comprehensive exam. All committee members must approve degree recitals 2-5.
Written Comprehensive Exam	After completion of coursework, typically in your fourth semester of a six semester program.
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.
Identify a research topic	Can be done as early as the first semester.
Complete IRB training, if required	Must be done before any human subject research is conducted.
Dissertation proposal exam	Scheduled at any time during coursework but it needs to be completed one semester before your defense semester.
Defense	Graduation semester.

Dissertation Defense Timeline - Completed in final semester

Task/Milestone	Timeline
Review thesis defense timeline	By the end of the first week of class.
Final review of your Plan of Study	By second month of your final semester. Fix any course issues/committee updates.
Apply for Graduation and Submit the Z-Y Spreadsheet	Oct. 1 for fall/Feb. 15 for spring/Jun. 15 for summer.
Submit final document draft to committee	At least three weeks before your thesis defense.
Pick a defense date	Determine defense date with committee (at least three weeks before defense date).
Chair submits the Defense request form	A minimum of three weeks before the defense date.
Schedule your defense in MyASU and upload document to your Plan of Study for format review	After receiving approval from the Office of Academic Affairs, schedule your defense at least 10 business days before your date.
Complete Survey of Earned Doctorates	For current semester deadlines and more detailed information, go to the MDT Graduate Student Resources canvas site for defense information.
Submit final format revisions to ASU Graduate College	
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 interdisciplinary digital media is accredited through the National Association for Schools of Music (NASM) and meets the curricular guidelines as indicated below.

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

Studies in Major Area (60 credits)

AME XXX Core courses in consultation with the School of Arts, Media and Engineering faculty advisor (21)

MTC 523 Composition (master's level) (6)

MTC 723 Composition (three credits per semester for 2 semesters) (6)

MTC 792 Research (credits in any combination over several semesters throughout coursework) (9)

MTC 599: Thesis (master's level) (6)

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

Other Studies in Music - Musicology and Music Theory (19-21 credits)

MHL 532: Music Bibliography (3)

MHL Electives (3)

MTC 525: Pedagogy of Theory (required in DMA if not taken in MM, needs approval) (3)

MTC Electives (3)

MHL or MTC Electives (7-9)

Electives (9-11 credits)

Electives in fields related to the student's research. (9-11)

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
SEMESTER 1	
AME XXX (3) MTC 723 (3) MHL or MTC (3) MTC	<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 Canvas site for DMA eligible courses in MHL and MTC. 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 Curriculum Practicum Training option with advisor and Julie Krause in the School of Music, Dance and Theatre Office of Academic Affairs.
SEMESTER 2	
MTC 723 (3) AME XXX (3) MTC or MTC (3) MTC	<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.
SEMESTER 3	
AME XXX MTC (3) MTC 792 Research (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	
AME XXX MTC 792 Research (6)	<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	
AME XXX MTC 792 Research (3) MTC 799 Dissertation (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Steps to Graduation Workshop. • Review Defense deadlines and procedures. • Last semester to submit Doctoral Prospectus 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 799 Dissertation (9)	<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).