

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Music & Dramatic Arts

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Graduate Student Handbook 2025-2026

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To locate the Graduate School Handbook, please see the “Graduate School” tab on the left side of the most current [University General Catalog](#).

The University and the School of Music reserve the right to change any provision, offering (courses or services) or requirement at any time within a student’s period of study at LSU. Students are required to adhere to the policies, procedures, and stipulations outlined in the most current School of Music Handbook, regardless of the year in which they entered the program. Students are personally responsible for knowing and completing all degree requirements established by the University, College, or School, and for keeping informed of any changes that may occur as they do so. The right is reserved to correct any typographical errors in this document.

INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDY IN MUSIC

Welcome to the Louisiana State University School of Music and congratulations on your decision to pursue a graduate degree! We hope you will find the experience challenging and rewarding, and that you will make many lasting friendships and professional connections as you work with faculty mentors and student peers.

One primary difference between undergraduate and graduate study is that the responsibility lies more fully on the graduate student to seek out opportunities for musical growth within and beyond the requirements of the degree you are pursuing. Students who explore the libraries, lecture and concert venues, and the myriad resources of the University and the community will discover that opportunities for musical and intellectual growth extend far beyond the classroom or practice room. Strive to take advantage of every opportunity offered to you. Recitals, lectures, rehearsals, and other musical and cultural events take place almost continuously both on the campus and in the Baton Rouge area. Join in and enjoy!

Students are responsible for knowing and following the requirements, policies, and deadlines explained in this Handbook and in the [University General Catalog](#). Please read and follow the requirements carefully.

To locate the Graduate School Handbook, please see the “Graduate School” tab on the left side of the most current [University General Catalog](#).

The [Graduate School Calendar](#) found on the Graduate School website is extremely important. For assistance, enlist the help of your major professor or the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

The faculty and staff of the School of Music stand ready to engage with your efforts to advance your musical skills and to help you achieve recognition for excellence in performance, scholarship, and creative activity. Best wishes on a productive and successful journey through your graduate degree.

If you have questions or need assistance, please let me know. I look forward to assisting you throughout your studies and as you complete all degree requirements.

Sincerely,
Trey Davis, DMA
Associate Director for Graduate Studies, LSU School of Music
112 School of Music Building
(225) 578-5918, CMDAGradStudies@lsu.edu

CONTACT INFORMATION

**School of Music Office: 102 School of Music
School of Music Administration and Staff**

TEL: (225) 578-3261

Eric Lau	Dean, College of Music and Dramatic Arts	cmdadeansoffice@lsu.edu	105 MDA
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James Byo	Director, School of Music	jbyo@lsu.edu	102 SoM
Pamela Pike	Assoc Dean, Research, Creative Activity, & Community Engagement	pdpike@lsu.edu	291 MDA
Shannon Walsh	Assoc Dean, Access & Inclusion	swalsh@lsu.edu	323 MDA
Trey Davis	Associate Director, Graduate Studies	cmdagradstudies@lsu.edu	112 SoM
Paloma Gonzalez	Coordinator, Student Services	paloma@lsu.edu	109 MDA
Amy Smith	Assistant Dean, Office of Student Success	asmith10@lsu.edu	102 SoM
Susannah Knoll	Executive Assistant to the Dean, CMDA	smonta1@lsu.edu	105 MDA
Kaitlin Richard	Assistant to the Director, SoM	krichard1@lsu.edu	102 SoM
Drew Alvarez	Front Office Assistant, Theatre	drewalvarez@lsu.edu	191 MDA
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Bill Kelley	Recording Engineer	wdkelley@lsu.edu	Rec. Stud.
Stefka Madere	Business Manager, SoM	stefkamadere@lsu.edu	125 SoM
Salem Johnson	Business Officer, SoM	Sjoh363@lsu.edu	108 SoM

For additional contact information including office locations and e-mail addresses, see [People on the School of Music website](#) and [People on the CMDA website](#).

Campus Services/Opportunities

To orient yourself to campus services and opportunities, go to Directories on the LSU website. Scan this alphabetical listing of offices, centers, departments, etc. For example, the Office of the Division of Student Affairs; Disability Services; the Office of Engagement, Civil Rights, & Title IX; the Student Health Center, the Graduate School, International Student Services, the LGBTQ+ Project, Parking & Transportation Services, Policies & Procedures.

GRADUATE DEGREES OFFERED

The degrees and areas of specialization offered by the LSU School of Music are:

DEGREE

CONCENTRATIONS

Master of Music

(Degree code: MMUS)

(Major: Music)

Brass Performance
Choral Conducting
Collaborative Keyboard
Composition
Jazz Studies
Music Education
Music Theory
Musicology
Orchestral Conducting
Percussion Performance
Piano Pedagogy
Piano Performance
String Performance
Vocal Performance
Wind Conducting
Woodwind Performance

Doctor of Musical Arts

(Degree code: DMUS)

(Major: Music)

Brass Performance
Choral Conducting
Collaborative Keyboard
Orchestral Conducting
Percussion Performance
Piano Performance
String Performance
Vocal Performance
Wind Conducting
Woodwind Performance

Doctor of Philosophy

(Degree code: PMUSC)

(Major: Music)

Composition
Experimental Music and Digital Media
Music Education
Piano Pedagogy
Musicology
Music Theory

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION, FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT, GOOD STANDING

Provisional Admission and Probationary Admission

Most graduate students are initially admitted on a provisional basis until all requested and required documents are submitted to the Graduate School. If your admission status was probationary, you should have received an official communication from the Graduate School detailing the reason for and requirements of your probation. Students on probation who fail to fulfill the conditions of their probation may be removed from the Graduate School. All students admitted with probationary or provisional status must enroll for at least nine credit hours each semester. For more information, consult the [University General Catalog](#).

Applicants with a Non-Music Baccalaureate Degree

Applicants with a non-music baccalaureate degree may be admitted if potential for success in the prospective degree program is documented by relevant measures of competence. Upon nomination by the appropriate faculty member, the Associate Director for Graduate Studies in consultation with the Director of the School of Music, will determine an applicant's suitability for admission.

Full-time Enrollment

Full-time enrollment in the Graduate School is 9 hours in the fall and spring semesters (6 hours for graduate credit), and 6 hours in the summer term (3 hours for graduate credit).

Requirements to Remain in Good Standing

Each graduate student is required to remain in good standing with the LSU Graduate School. This means making satisfactory progress towards the degree and maintaining a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.0. Satisfactory progress includes completing all required remediation in a timely manner and successfully passing required coursework. Should you fail to fulfill the requirements, you may be dropped from the Graduate School and denied the right to continue working toward your degree. In most cases, unless the problem is extremely severe, a semester of academic probation is assigned to allow the student the opportunity to raise the grade point average. No more than 6 hours of C grades can count toward any graduate degree. If you experience difficulty with your coursework, discuss the matter with your instructors and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

ADVISING, REGISTRATION, DROP/ADD, TUITION AND FEES, TRAVEL GRANTS, FELLOWSHIP REGULATIONS

Faculty Advisors and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies

Graduate students are supervised by faculty members in their concentration. The major professor (doctorate) and advisor (master's) normally serves as the chair of the student's graduate committee and compiles materials for the milestone exams—the Doctoral Qualifying, Master's Comprehensive, Doctoral General, and Doctoral Final. The supervisor's role is to assist the student in preparing a course of study for the degree, including choice of minor area, and in selecting courses to be taken each semester. A curriculum table for each graduate degree concentration may be found in the current document. The Associate Director for Graduate Studies will also assist you in interpreting and following your curriculum table, in preparing degree audits to ensure that you stay on track to fulfill requirements, and in meeting deadlines. Work with your supervisor and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies to plan for recitals, milestone exams, and required coursework.

Note that not all required courses are offered every semester.

Registration Procedures

Please see <https://www.lsu.edu/cmda/music/resources/student/graduate-course-offerings.php> for current CMDA graduate music course offerings.

Students register online, using their myLSU account. You will need to use your lsu.edu email, not your personal email account, to do so. Consultation with your major professor or Associate Director for Graduate Studies is recommended when choosing courses each semester. Detailed instructions for completing this part of registration are given in the [Schedule Booklet](#) available online. Take special note of the following:

1. Pre-registration is required each semester. Penalties apply to continuing students who do not meet the pre-registration and fee payment deadlines. Read the schedule of classes carefully and pre-register before the deadline or you will be charged a \$75.00 late fee.
2. Always re-confirm your classes by checking your status on myLSU.
3. Payroll deduction: This process is for graduate assistants, fellowship recipients, and scholarship holders who desire to have tuition paid with this funding. Choose “Payroll Deduct” under Payment Options.
4. The final step in registering is to COMPLETE REGISTRATION by selecting this option at the bottom of the form, or your courses will be purged and you will have to register again.

Drop/Add Deadline

After you complete registration, any changes to your schedule can still be made before the deadline stated on the [Graduate School Calendar](#). If you drop a class after the deadline, you will earn a grade of W. If you need assistance, see the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

Travel Grants

Each year the College of Music & Dramatic Arts offers a limited number of student professional development travel grants to assist creative and research activity. Grants covering travel in fall, spring, and summer will be limited to a maximum of \$500. The application form can be found [on the CMDA website](#).

Regulations for Students Holding Fellowships

While holding a Graduate Fellowship (Board of Regents Fellowship, Huel Perkins Fellowship, or other), students must be enrolled for at least 9 hours every Spring and Fall semester, and for at least 6 hours in summer. Outside employment is not permitted while holding certain fellowships. Review the terms of your agreement carefully.

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Contractual Obligations

Students holding assistantships are issued contracts stating the duties and number of hours of work assigned. Specific duty assignments are made at the beginning of each semester or academic year and may change depending upon student abilities and the needs of the School of Music. Assistantships are 9-month contracts; no duties or stipends apply to the summer term. The contract period begins the Monday before the first day of classes each semester. Students must seek out with their employment supervisor(s) to schedule work hours. Students holding assistantships are required to be enrolled for a minimum of 9 credit hours, of which at least 6 hours must be in graduate-level courses. Students who drop below nine hours during any given semester may lose their assistantship. The contract period normally ends the Monday after the last day of classes.

How Holidays Are Observed

Please note that some offices employing graduate students operate according to the administration/staff holiday schedule, not the student holiday schedule. *Consult with your supervisor before scheduling travel, off-campus events, auditions, etc.* Contact the Associate Director for Graduate Studies with questions or concerns about your schedule or hours.

Tuition and Fee Waivers

Graduate Assistants who are appointed by October 1 (for fall semester), by March 1 (for spring semester), or by the first day of the second summer session are considered state residents for fee purposes only. Thus, Graduate Assistants who work 10 hours per week or more will receive a non-resident fee waiver, if applicable. In addition, graduate assistants who are enrolled full-time and appointed at 50% effort (20 hour per week) will receive a tuition exemption and an exemption of the following fees: Dedicated, Technology, Building Use, Student Excellence, Academic, and Operational, as defined in PM 43 Student Fees. For information on current tuition and fee schedules, visit the [Budget & Planning website](#). If a graduate assistantship ends or is terminated on or before October 1st (for fall semester), on or before March 1st (for spring semester), on or before the first day of the second summer session (for summer semester), the GA will not receive the tuition exemption and will be responsible for tuition, non-resident fees (if applicable), and other fees as listed on the tuition and fee schedules.

Taxes are deducted from the amount of the assistantship.

Performance of Duties

As a graduate assistant, you are expected to perform your assigned duties in a professional manner, with the utmost attention to satisfactory performance. Remember that the patterns of professional conduct you establish during this period will remain with you when you leave school and accept a professional position. The work of the graduate assistant is vital to the School of Music, whether that work is teaching classes or lessons, performing in an ensemble, accompanying, assisting with recording services, serving as a research assistant, or assisting office staff. Per [PS-21](#), the quality of graduate assistant work is reviewed each semester. Failure to perform in a satisfactory manner may lead to cancellation of the assistantship. Failure to make adequate degree progress may lead to cancellation of the assistantship. Failure to act in accordance with the [Code of Student Conduct](#) may lead to cancellation of the assistantship. See your teaching assistantship offer letter for its detail about “satisfactory progress toward the degree.”

Consult your assistantship supervisor (this may or may not be your major professor) or the Associate Director for Graduate Studies if you are unable to fulfill your work assignment. In the case of an emergency, graduate students must notify their supervisor if duties will be missed.

Renewal and Extension of Assistantship Contracts

The period of an assistantship (one or more years) is stated in the contract offer. Renewal during the contracted period is dependent upon satisfactory progress in the degree program and acceptable performance of assigned duties. Extension of an assistantship beyond the initially contracted period must be requested in writing by the student and presented to their major professor. The request will be considered in light of student accomplishments, departmental needs, and budgetary status. Such extensions are the exception, not the rule.

Summer Tuition Waiver

A student who holds a 20-hour graduate assistantship during the fall and spring semesters (two consecutive semesters) of the academic year will receive, as an added benefit, a full tuition waiver for summer school.

Keys/Lockers

A limited number of building keys and lockers will be issued to Graduate Assistants needing access. See [the key request form](#) for key protocols and [the locker request form](#) for locker protocols.

Recitals

See [the Recital Policies, Procedures, Scheduling, Piano Services, and Programs website](#).

Receptions

A reception after the recital may be held in the Virginia Martin Howard Boardroom of the School of Music (SoM 105). It must be reserved at least two weeks prior to the event. A Usage Agreement must be signed. To reserve the space, view the [Room Schedules](#) on the School of Music website to determine availability, then complete the [Room Reservation Request Form](#). Obtain a key from the School of Music main office (SoM 102).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, REGULATIONS, POLICY

Building Access

Our buildings are the School of Music (SoM) and the Music and Dramatic Arts Building (MDA). Building hours:

- Monday-Friday 6:30 AM to 11:45 PM
- Weekends 6:30AM to 10:15 PM

Expect the music buildings to be closed and not available for practice and rehearsal on home football game Saturdays.

Card-based building access is available [via the request form](#).

Safety at LSU

[Stay Safe at LSU](#) provides resources and training for you as you make plans to be safe on campus. See, among other things:

- Emergency Text Messaging
- LSU Shield Mobile App
- Campus Transit
- See Something Say Something
- Run/Hide/Fight

Safety in the Music Buildings

Help us make your safety a priority.

- Do not enter or remain inside the buildings after hours.
- Do not block open locked doors.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- If something seems off, avoid it.
- If you feel unsafe, use the LSU Shield App or call Campus Police ((225) 578-3231).
- Do not leave personal items unprotected.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of [academic integrity](#) and personal behavior. This includes but is not limited to: honesty on all tests, assignments, and research papers. The [LSU Code of Student Conduct](#) covers this and outlines the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty as regards reporting alleged academic misconduct. Any faculty member suspecting that a student has been involved in academic misconduct is required to report those activities to the Office of Student Advocacy & Accountability.

Title IX

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of your actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Title IX also covers sexual violence, dating or domestic violence, and stalking. The LSU Office of Civil Rights and Title IX oversees compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, Civil Rights, The Jeanne Clery Act, and Title IX enforcement and procedures

Concerning title IX, all LSU employees are mandatory reporters. Graduate teaching assistants are LSU employees. Any employee who either through witnessing or act of disclosure knows of a sexual assault and does not report it to the [Office of Civil Rights & Title IX office](#) will be terminated. If a student discloses a Title IX issue to a faculty or staff member, faculty and staff are legally required to report it. If you would like to make a report of sex or gender-based discrimination, harassment, or violence, or if you would like to know more about your rights and resources on campus you can consult the Office of Civil Rights & Title IX office.

Health and Wellness

The Music major requires a significant investment of your time and energy. The School encourages you to maintain healthy practices and be mindful of your own psychological well-being.

CMDA Mental Health Counseling: As of Fall 2025, in partnership with LSU Student Health Center Mental Health Services, the College of Music and Dramatic Arts and LSU Bands offers dedicated, on-site mental health counseling for graduate and undergraduate students within the College of Music and Dramatic Arts or LSU Bands including Tiger Marching Band. Appointments will be held on LSU's campus in the School of Music Building and through teletherapy. There is no cost for this service. When making an appointment, students should specify if they would like to connect with the CMDA Counselor. Schedule in person at the LSU Student Health Center or Call (225) 578-8774.

Additionally, same day access is available Monday-Friday in the Student Health Center's main site clinic for any students who would like to get connected with services in that manner, or for those who have urgent/crisis needs. If you are experiencing an acute mental health crisis and need to speak with someone immediately, please call 988 or text 741741. Funding for this service is in part provided through the Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund. In addition, the LSU Student Health Center offers a variety of mental health services. For more information, visit the [LSU Student Health Center Mental Health Services website](#).

Using School Facilities/Equipment for Profit: Prohibited

It is against LSU policy for students and alumni to use University facilities (including offices, classrooms, and practice rooms) and equipment for teaching lessons for profit. The Music buildings and their contents are property of the state of Louisiana, paid for and maintained by taxpayers. They are public buildings that may not be used for private profit.

Attendance in Classes, Lessons, and Rehearsals

Student absence from class is covered in full in [PS-22](#).

As of Fall 2024, the priority placed on class attendance is consistent with the LSU School of Music principle "Be Present." SoM faculty, staff, and administrators value and practice a culture of active engagement. Being present in body and mind, an unrelenting habit of "showing up," is perhaps the most essential characteristic of a successful human. Go to class; don't make it a choice.

Group Excused Absences may be granted for certain off-campus performances, presentations, or obligations that are directly related to the LSU experience. The Director of the School of Music must approve all requests from ensemble directors and other faculty. In most cases, students will be made aware of these absences at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to make up any course material covered during his/her absence.

Recital Hall Regulations

As the premiere public recital and recording space of the School of Music, the Recital Hall is used primarily for faculty recitals, student recitals, guest artist recitals and master classes, dress rehearsals, and faculty recording. Additionally, it is open to scholarly presentations, limited studio

classes, and large-scale student/parent events. It is available for independent student recording (recorded audition) on a limited timetable. It is reserved for piano tuning and maintenance on a timetable that varies with the recital/concert schedule.

Requests for **other use** will be considered and approvals reserved for (a) music faculty and students in the LSU music major, (b) other events of relevance to the LSU community, and (c) those who, after use, can be depended on to return the space to “neutral,” which concerns the treatment of pianos, chairs, stands, lights, and doors. Good stewardship of the space and equipment is critical.

For all use, the Recital Hall must be reserved. No exceptions.

- The primary user must make the request for use.
- The Recital Hall is available for **other use** on weekends only for faculty.
- Reservation requests must be made 2 weeks in advance. Otherwise, consideration is at the discretion of the Director of the School of Music.
- Users will observe explicit **use protocols**, which will be distributed in writing.

Reserving Rooms

Rooms (including certain classrooms) in the School of Music and Music and Dramatic Arts buildings may be reserved for rehearsals involving chamber groups and small ensembles and for self-recording.

Adequate rehearsal/performance space can be found in:

- SoM 232: Chamber music room
- SoM 331: Chamber music room
- SoM 115: Choir rehearsal room
- SoM 118: Orchestra rehearsal room
- SoM 114: With noise-reducing doors, 114 is a satisfactory space for self-recording.

For all SoM and MDA rooms, a **room reservation request** must be completed and approved before use. When the football schedule and SoM staffing allow, these rooms may be reserved on weekends. Requests for weekend reservations must be submitted by 12:00pm on the Friday immediately preceding. To reserve rooms in the School of Music or Music & Dramatic Arts building, please complete the [room reservation form](#) on the School of Music website.

Neutral Arrangement of Room Furniture and Pianos

After using classrooms and rehearsal spaces, return furniture and pianos “neutral.” A sign diagramming the neutral disposition of pianos, chairs, and stands is posted in each room. Turn off projector screens, shut off lights, and close doors. Good stewardship of the space and equipment is critical.

Graduation Exercises

We encourage you to participate in commencement exercises, and to celebrate your achievements along with those of your friends and colleagues. Graduation robes and regalia can be purchased or rented at the [LSU Bookstore](#) or online at lsu.shopoakhalli.com. Plan ahead! The deadlines for in-store or online rental or purchase are between three and six weeks prior to commencement.

[Click Here for Frequently Asked Questions about Commencement](#)

MASTER OF MUSIC DEGREES

Diagnostic Exams

Diagnostic Exams in Music History and Music Theory. All entering graduate students in the School of Music (including students who have earned undergraduate degrees from LSU) must take diagnostic examinations in music theory and music history. Diagnostic examinations are given at the beginning of each semester (including Summer). Get started **before the start of Semester 1**. The degree of accomplishment expected is equivalent to that of LSU's graduating seniors. Diligent preparation and review can significantly improve your performance on the exams. Based on exam results, the undergraduate courses MUS 3703 or MUS 3710 may be required as prerequisites for graduate level courses in music theory and music history. If you are required to take remedial courses, they will provide a valuable opportunity to enhance your knowledge and sharpen your skills. See [the Diagnostics Webpage](#) for how to prepare and see dates offered. A grade of C or better is required to pass MUS 3703 and MUS 3710.

A student may repeat the diagnostic exam in a subsequent semester, but after two failures must take the remedial classes. MUS 3703 is offered during the Fall semester, MUS 3710 during the Spring semester; additionally, an online music theory module is offered during the Summer semester that may substitute for MUS 3703. Remedial courses do NOT count toward a graduate degree. They do count toward the 9 hours of credit required for full time registration. The dates for the diagnostic and all other graduate exams are posted on the School of Music website under Current/Prospective Students.

Degree Requirements & Curricular Guides

Curricular guides for all Master of Music (MM) degrees are included in the curricular tables section of this Handbook. Each student in a Master's curriculum should know the curriculum for their concentration and refer to it in the process of selecting courses. Questions regarding interpretation of the degree program and choices of courses should be discussed with your advisor and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies. It is the responsibility of each graduate student to complete all degree requirements and adhere to all deadlines. Rules and deadlines that pertain to graduate students can be found on the [Graduate School website](#) or the [Schedule Booklet](#).

Completion

Typically, two years is sufficient time to complete the requirements for a Master's degree. If a student does not complete the degree in five years, the student will need to request revalidation of some or all previously completed coursework. Students must be registered for a minimum of one credit hour during the semester in which they plan to graduate.

Major Professor

In some applied music concentrations, your advisor is determined by your choice of LSU for doctoral study. For example, there is one flute professor who oversees the flute part of the Woodwind Performance concentration. In other concentrations, for example, Music Theory, you may choose a major professor from among multiple faculty. In **Year 1**, seek out experiences that

expose you to the work of the faculty. Observe. Interact. Formulate thoughts about who you might approach about being your major professor. If you have questions or want to discuss, contact the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

Advisory Committee

A committee made up of three members of the School of Music faculty, will serve in an advisory capacity for each Master's student. The committee should be chosen in consultation with the student's major professor who will normally serve as chair of the committee. At least two members must come from the student's immediate area of specialization. If the degree program requires a thesis, the student will be supervised by the advisor. Your advisory committee should be involved in editing and revising the written documents associated with the Prospectus and Thesis Defense.

MM students typically complete one of three culminating projects, depending on the degree concentration. See below for type of project and degree concentration.

Master's Recital (MUS 7798)

Required for the Master's concentrations in Performance, Composition, and Conducting. Register for the required number of hours shown in the curriculum table for your degree, and follow Recital Policies, Procedures, and protocols for Scheduling, Piano Services, and Programs [on the Recital-Planning website](#). Your advisor and at least one other member of your area faculty must submit grades for your recital to the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

Master's Thesis (MUS 8000)

Required for Composition and Musicology. Optional for Music Education and Music Theory; with approval of the major professor. Thesis students must register for 1-6 credits of MUS 8000 every semester in which they work on the thesis. A minimum of six credit hours of MUS 8000 are required. For additional information refer to the relevant curriculum table found below.

The thesis must document original research. Students must prepare a **prospectus** describing the scope and significance of the project, working methods, and basic bibliography. The prospectus must be approved by an advisory committee. Prospectus development must begin in Year 1 of the degree program.

If your thesis involves human subjects, you are required to know about and follow through on the research obligations presented on the website of the LSU Office of Research and Economic Development. See [the Institutional Research Board and Human Subjects Research Training website](#). Don't wait.

The Master's Thesis, complete and in final form, must be submitted to all members of the committee a minimum of **two weeks** prior to the final oral examination (defense). The student must schedule the two hour oral examination when completing the form Application for Master's Comprehensive Exam, which must be submitted to the Graduate School **three weeks** prior to the examination date and before the deadline set each semester by the Graduate School. All members of the advisory committee must be present at the final exam unless permission is obtained in advance from the Dean of the Graduate School to proceed otherwise.

It is imperative to check with the [Graduate School](#) regarding requirements for submitting and uploading your thesis. See [the Graduate School website for correct format and submission guidelines](#).

Master's Comprehensive Examination

The Comprehensive Examination is taken by all MM students who do not write a thesis. The date of the written Master's Comprehensive Examination is set by the School of Music and normally takes place shortly after the mid-semester examination period. The dates are posted on the School of Music website. The Comprehensive Exam is normally a three-hour written examination prepared and graded by the advisory committee. Questions on the Master's exam are generally limited to the candidate's primary area of study. You must be enrolled for at least one credit during the semester in which you take the Comprehensive Examination (or during a required re-take of the examination). MM students who take a Comprehensive Exam may be required to pass an oral defense of the Comprehensive Exam as well, depending on the policy of their major area faculty.

Graduating Students: Required Forms

All graduating MM students must submit an Application for Master's Degree and a Request for Master's Examination. Both forms are available on the Graduate School website. The Deadlines for submission are set by the Graduate School and these forms will be due **early** in the semester you intend to graduate. Make an appointment with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies to process a degree audit and assist in completing the forms before you gather the required signatures. Failure to file these required forms on time will result in a delay in your graduation.

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Curriculum Tables

Curriculum Tables for the Doctor of Music Arts (DMA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) are provided below. Doctoral students should follow the curriculum table carefully when selecting coursework each semester. Students should choose courses in consultation with their major professor and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies

Minor Area Requirements (Internal Music Minor)

Courses in the minor area may not apply to major area coursework except as stated below. The minor area of study for an individual will be designed by the minor professor.

Minors from areas outside of the School of Music are also possible.

See details on the [Graduate School website here](#):

Brass

11-12 hours from: MUS 70xx (applied lessons), MUS 7128, 9935, 9936, 4223, 7997, 7998. Maximum 6 hrs. applied lessons and 1 hr. of MUS 4223 may apply to minor. Audition with approval by at least two members of the Brass/Percussion faculty is required.

Collaborative Keyboard

12 hours from: MUS 4222, 4223, 4224, 7011, 7031, 7055, 7221, 7222, 7521, 7522. Maximum 6 hrs. applied lessons.

Composition

12 hours from: MUS 7051, 7703, 7745, 7798

Choral Conducting

12 hours from: MUS 4235 (4), 7721, 7722, 7771, 7772

EMDM

12 hours from: MUS 7746, 7747, 7051, 7053, 7745

Jazz Studies

12 hours from: MUS 4253, 4255, 4735, 7054, 7176, 7160. Maximum of 6 hrs. applied lessons and 1 hr. each of 4253 and 4255 may apply to minor.

Music Education

12 hours from: MUS 7570, 7762, 7764, 7765, 7766, 7767, 7768, 7905, 7906

Music Theory

12 hours from: MUS 7701, 7704, 7710, 7711, 7712, 7714, 7741, 7742, 7921, 7997. May not count the two courses required for the major.

Musicology

12 hours from: MUS 7741, 7742, 7751, 7752, 7753, 7754, 7755, 7756, 7757, 7760, 7780, 7903, 7904, 7997. May not count the two courses required for major.

Orchestral Conducting

11-12 hours from: MUS 7775, MUS 7776, MUS 7172, MUS 4730, One 7000-level Music History or Music Theory course (one course beyond the baseline doctoral requirement of two of each)

Percussion

12 hours from: MUS 4226, 4227, 7049, 7130, 7175, 9937. Maximum of 6 hrs. applied lessons and 1 hr. each of 4226 and 4227 may apply to minor. Audition with approval by at least two members of the Brass/Percussion faculty is required.

Piano Pedagogy

11-12 hours from: MUS 4763, 4764, 7031, 7500, 7501, 7502, 7797.

Piano Performance

12 hours from: MUS 4220, 7031, 7749, 7750, 7777, 7778, 7798. Maximum of 6 hrs. applied lessons may apply to minor.

Strings

11-12 hours from: MUS 4224, 70xx (applied lessons), 4260, 4261, 7124, 7172. Maximum of 6 hrs. applied lessons, 3 hrs. of 4224, and of 1 hr. each of 4260 or 4261 may apply to minor.

Vocal Performance

11-12 hours from: MUS 7030 (applied lessons, 6 hrs. max.), 7221, 7222, 7170, 7018, 7019, 7020, 9925, 9926. A min. of 3 hrs. must be in pedagogy and 3 hrs. in literature, diction, or opera.

Vocal Pedagogy

11-12 hrs. from: MUS 7170, 7270, 7271, 7272, 7500.

Wind Conducting

12 hours from: 4251, 4254, 7723, 7724, 7773, 7774. 4 hours of ensemble participation are normally required (4251, 4254, or as assigned).

Woodwinds

11-12 hours MUS 4222 (3 hrs. max.), 70xx (applied lessons, 6 hrs. max.), 7126, 7127, 7173

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet all rules and regulations of the LSU Graduate School (see current catalog). An appropriate Master's degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4-point scale on all graduate and undergraduate work is required for non-probationary admission. An acceptable score [combined verbal/quantitative] on the GRE is required for the PhD, not for the DMA. Applicants must submit a letter of intent, an application for admission, transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work, and three letters of recommendation.

Applicants with a baccalaureate degree in a field outside of music may be admitted if potential for success in the prospective degree program is documented by relevant measures of competence. Upon nomination by the appropriate faculty member, the Associate Director for Graduate Studies, in consultation with the Director of the School of Music, will determine an applicant's suitability for admission without an earned Bachelor's degree in music.

International students must demonstrate English language proficiency (TOEFL or IELTS) and provide degree certification.

Doctoral Milestone Experiences and Timeline

The doctoral experience includes (a) the curriculum associated with the particular degree concentration and (b) a number of significant events, including milestone exams, that frame the curriculum. The following Timeline for All Doctoral Concentrations is intended to give you a sense of how the events distribute over the course of 3 years. (Other paths to completion are defined in consultation with Major Professor and Associate Director for Graduate Studies.) Examining the timeline puts a spotlight on the harm procrastination brings. Notice how preparation for each timeline event should begin well before the occurrence of the event. While the major professor supports the process, ultimately the student is responsible for adhering to the timeline.

Significant events:

- Diagnostic exams (theory, history)
- Qualifying exam
- Declaration of major professor (if necessary)
- Choice of minor area
- Formation of advisory committee
- Academic course plan
- General exam, including the prospectus for Final Project
- Final Exam

School of Music nomenclature for final projects

- PhD students take general exams and write dissertations with one exception. The culminating projects in the Composition PhD is an original composition and a monograph.
- DMA students take general exams and complete a monograph, lecture recital with written document, or the Portfolio.
- MM students take comprehensive exams and/or write theses.

See page 22 for the "General Timeline for Doctoral Degrees: Three Year Path" table.

General Timeline for Doctoral Degrees: Three Year Path

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Semester 5	Semester 6	Semester 7
Take Music History and Music Theory Diagnostic Exams before the semester begins. Pass Theory Diagnostic: Take MUS 7700 Survey of Analytical Techniques. Pass History Diagnostic: Take 7000-level music history course. Don't Pass Theory Diagnostic: Plan to take MUS 3703 Theory Survey (fall only) or re-take the exam once more the following semester.						
Don't Pass History Diagnostic: Plan to take MUS 3710 Overview of Western Music History (spring only) or re-take the exam once more the following semester.	Continue coursework as required by curriculum, advised by major professor. This includes music history, music theory, and courses specific to your major area. These may continue into the third year.			Apply for General Exam early in the semester. Students may have no more than six pending credit hours remaining, not counting courses in progress, in order to apply.	A Request for the Final Defense must be submitted to the Graduate School at least three weeks prior to the proposed defense date. Doctoral candidates are required to submit the “Doctoral Application for Degree” form by the semester’s calendar deadline.	Degree may take more than three years to complete. Seven years is the time limit established by the university.
		If not already taken, take MUS 7700 Survey of Analytical Techniques.		General Exam (written): written responses to questions, including the Prospectus for dissertation, lecture recital, monograph, or Portfolio.*	The Final Exam Defense is a defense of your dissertation, lecture recital, monograph, or Portfolio. The examining committee, including the Dean’s representative, must have copies of the written document at least two weeks prior to the Final Defense.	
PhD Theory and Musicology take MUS 7780 Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology.						

Other PhDs and all DMAs take MUS 7800 Introduction to Research in Music.		If not already taken, PhD Theory and Musicology take MUS 7780 Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology.		General Exam Defense (oral): defense of written responses to questions, including the Prospectus. The approved prospectus should be submitted by the end of the semester of the General Exam.		
Select a major professor (major professor informs Associate Director for Graduate Studies). Consult with your major professor about area-specific exams (e.g., language exams and piano proficiency exams).	Select a minor professor and declare a minor area (major professor informs Associate Director for Graduate Studies). Begin creating an academic course plan in consultation with the major and minor professors.	Finalize academic course plan.			Continuous Registration Requirement: Doctoral candidates must maintain continuous registration for a minimum of three semester hours of credit each regular semester (excluding summers) from the completion of the General Exam Defense to the end of the semester in which the dissertation has been approved by the Graduate School.	
Qualifying Exam: Ask your major professor what is involved. This must be completed in the first year of study.						
Form an advisory committee for exams, Prospectus, and project defense. Committee must consist of the following at a minimum: major professor, one other member from the area, and minor professor. Your committee must have at least one full member of the graduate faculty. This must be completed in the first year of study.				Your advisory committee should be involved in editing and revising the written documents associated with the Prospectus and Final Exam Defense.		

*PhD Theory approaches the timeline for Prospectus differently; consult with major professor.

Diagnostic Exams in Music History and Music Theory

All entering graduate students in the School of Music (including students who have earned undergraduate degrees from LSU) must take diagnostic examinations in music theory and music history. Students who receive a Master's degree from LSU and enter a doctoral program within four years from the date of their graduation are not required to take these exams. Diagnostic examinations are given at the beginning of each semester (including Summer). Get started **before the start of Semester 1**. The degree of accomplishment expected is equivalent to that of LSU's graduating seniors. Diligent preparation and review can significantly improve your performance on the exams. Based on the results, the undergraduate courses MUS 3703 (music theory) or MUS 3710 (music history) may be required as prerequisites for graduate level courses in music theory and music history. If you are required to take remedial courses, they will provide a valuable opportunity to enhance your knowledge and sharpen your skills. See [the Diagnostic Exam website](#) for how to prepare and dates offered. A grade of C or better is required to pass MUS 3703 and MUS 3710. A Summer Theory Module is available for a fee. The student must receive a passing grade on its final exam, which will count toward passing the Diagnostic Theory Exam.

A student may repeat the diagnostic exam in a subsequent semester, but after two failures must take the remedial classes. MUS 3703 is offered during the Fall semester, MUS 3710 during the Spring semester; additionally, an online music theory module is offered during the Summer semester that may substitute for MUS 3703. Remedial courses do NOT count toward a graduate degree. They do count toward the 9 hours of credit required for full time registration. The dates for the diagnostic and all other graduate exams are posted on the School of Music website under Current/Prospective Students.

Research Competency

These courses, which prepare students for the research demanded by many other graduate courses, the final research project, and professional life, are required of all doctoral students as follows:

- MUS 7800, Introduction to Research in Music (for students in the DMA, Music Education PhD, and Composition PhD concentrations). Offered every fall.
- MUS 7780, Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology (for students in the Music Theory and Music History PhD concentrations). Offered usually every other fall.

Students should take the relevant course as early in their degree program as possible.

Research Involving Human Subjects

If your dissertation or monograph involves human subjects, you are required to know and follow through on the research obligations presented on the website of the LSU Office of Research and Economic Development. See [the Institutional Research Board and Human Subjects Research Training website](#). Don't wait.

Doctoral Recitals

Doctoral recitals (MUS 9001-MUS 9008) are selected and scheduled in consultation with one's major professor. Students may not schedule recitals until they register for the appropriate course number and pay the recital fee. Recital grades are submitted by applied faculty and recorded by the Associate Director for Graduate Studies. If a documented medical or family emergency prevent the performance of a scheduled recital, the student will receive an "I" grade (incomplete). The incomplete must be made up by the end of the next regular semester or the grade will automatically change to a permanent F on the student's academic record. Note that the student need not register again for a course in which they receive an "I" grade. Refer to the [General Catalog](#) for the criteria justifying an "I" grade and required documentation.

Doctoral Degree Audit and Request for General Examination

The Doctoral Degree Audit is a complete listing of all coursework completed by the student. It is advisable to maintain a working draft of this document, updating it each semester to reflect your progress. The final and official version of the Doctoral Degree Audit and Request for General Exam form is submitted early in the semester in which you take your General Exams. The form requires signatures from your committee members and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies. In order to complete it correctly, make an appointment with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies well before your exam. This form is available on the [Graduate School website](#).

Deadlines and procedures for scheduling and reporting the General Exams are strictly enforced by the Graduate School. Students are strongly advised to meet all deadlines in order to avoid delays in graduation. It is advisable to make an appointment with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies one full semester before you anticipate taking your exams so that you may discuss the procedure.

The deadline to submit the request for general examination is a minimum of three weeks before the date chosen for the oral examination/defense. This form must be completed by the student in consultation with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies as well as their major professor and doctoral committee.

Degree Completion

The program for the doctoral degree must be completed within 7 years from the time a student is classified as a doctoral student. This time limit may not be exceeded except by special administrative permission. The start date for completion of the doctoral degree does not change if the student transfers into a different doctoral program. Students must be enrolled for credit hours during the semester in which they plan to graduate unless they are graduating "Degree Only."

Requirement for Continuous Enrollment

Following successful completion of the general exam, the candidate is required by the Graduate School to register each regular semester (not summer sessions) for at least three credit hours in the appropriate final research project course (MUS 9000 through 9010, MUS 7998 for Portfolio), until the completion of the final research project, a successful defense and the confirmation from the Graduate School the degree requirements have been fulfilled.

Qualifying Exam

The Qualifying Exam must be completed in **Year 1**. It can take a number of different forms. It is organized by the head of area or major professor. Its purpose is to assess the student's overall performance in and potential to complete the degree program. As such, the actual exam is only the most recent opportunity for the student to demonstrate competence on career success criteria (e. g., research capacity, teachability, motivation, organization, potential) that are apparent in day-to-day interactions with subject matter and with people. Following the exam, the head of area or major professor advises the student on the results, reveals strengths and weaknesses and possible ameliorative strategies, and stimulates thought/discussion about choice of minor area and general direction for final exam and choice of major professor (if appropriate). Failure to pass the Qualifying Exam ends the student's time in the program.

Major Professor

In some applied music concentrations, your major professor is determined by your choice of LSU for doctoral study. For example, there is one flute professor who oversees the flute part of the Woodwind Performance concentration. In other concentrations, for example Music Theory, you may choose a major professor from among multiple faculty. In **Year 1**, seek out experiences that expose you to the work of the faculty. Observe.

Interact. Formulate thoughts about who you might approach about being your major professor. Choice of major professor is a topic for discussion in the follow up to the Qualifying Exam.

Choice of Minor Area

A minor area is required for all doctoral concentrations in music. It is an opportunity to diversify and acquire grounding in and documented recognition of the scholarship of a minor field. By widening your sphere of influence, choice of minor area has career implications. It exposes you to another major influence in the doctoral experience—the minor area professor. Note that the major and minor professor cannot be the same person.

The minor is a coherent program consisting normally of 12 hours of study. Some music students choose an “internal” minor, that is, one involving additional *music* coursework. Some academic areas urge or require that the minor be declared outside of the School of Music. With one exception, the minor area may be chosen from any area or department in which a graduate degree is offered at LSU. The exception: There is no graduate degree in Vocal Pedagogy, but it can be chosen for a minor by Vocal Performance majors. The coursework for internal minors can be found in this document. A list of non-music minor areas is found [on the LSU Graduate School website](#). In all cases, the specific coursework for an individual student must be approved by the minor area professor. The minor professor serves on the committee for the general and final examinations and will normally submit written questions for the General Examination. Choice of minor area is a topic for discussion in the follow up to the Qualifying Exam.

Academic Course Plan

The formulation of an academic course plan should begin in Semester 2. At first, it will likely be a general outline that conforms with the relevant curriculum table. As minor area and nature of final project are determined, it should be revised to represent a precise plan and approved by the advisory committee.

Formation of Advisory Committee

In **Year 1**, on the advice of the major professor, you should form a doctoral advisory committee of three faculty (major professor, minor professor, and one other faculty member in Music). Note for major professors: At least one-half of the graduate faculty on doctoral committees must be full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty at LSU. A minimum of two of those faculty members must be from the student’s major department and at least one of whom must be a full member of the LSU graduate faculty. The remaining members may be from the major department or may be from outside the department if pertinent to the student’s area of concentration, with the proviso that at least one of the remaining members must be a full member of the graduate faculty (total of 2 full members). The make-up of the Advisory Committee is a topic of discussion in the follow up to the Qualifying Exam. Later in your program, a fourth member of the committee, the Dean’s Representative, will be added.

The Graduate School assigns a fourth member of the committee, the Dean’s Representative (DR). The DR is a participating member for the General Exam and the Final Exam. The role of the DR is to observe and acknowledge procedural validity and rigor. It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with the DR, including their submission of materials and determination of dates for the exams. Policy requires that all committees have access to exam materials at least 2 weeks before the date of the exam.

General Exam and Prospectus

The General Examination consists of two separate parts: a written exam and a two hour oral exam. The oral exam usually follows two to four weeks after the written exam. Students must be enrolled for at least three credits during the semester in which they take any portion of the general exam, including any required repetition of the examination. No less than three calendar months may

elapse between the passing of the General Exam Defense and the completion of all requirements for the doctoral degree. In order to schedule the general examination students must have no more than six credit hours of coursework (exclusive of doctoral research or recitals) remaining.

The General Exam should be viewed less as a culminating event, more as an experience in independent preparation *leading to* the culminating event (both the exam and the oral defense of exam responses). As you approach the end of your coursework and the direction of your final project has been established is the time the *General Exam* takes place (typically the beginning of **Year 3**). The written portion may take on a variety of formats through which you must demonstrate knowledge and skillful use of it in your major and minor areas of study. Consult with major and minor professors about how to prepare. Preparation (study) for the exam should begin in **Year 2** of the degree, intensifying in the **Spring and Summer of Year 2**. The General Exam should include a discussion of the Prospectus for the Final Project. A prospectus is a well-fleshed out proposal of your final project (the dissertation, monograph, lecture recital with written document, or Portfolio). The major professor is your lead advisor for the project. For written documents, your entire committee should be involved in the editing/revision process. The general exam is evaluated with pass, fail, or retake as outcomes. The prospectus will be discussed and approved, approved with revisions, or rejected by committee. **Note:** Music Theory approaches the Prospectus in a different way. Consult with your major professor.

General examinations for doctoral candidates are not normally scheduled in summer semesters.

Music History. The examination takes place over a three-day period with a testing period of three hours each day. There are three components to the exam, normally (1) musicology, (2) music history, and (3) minor area.

Music Education The examination is a three-week, multipart scholarly writing assignment including minor area designed by the doctoral advisory committee.

Performance, Conducting, Music Theory, Composition, and Experimental Music & Digital Media. The examination takes place over a three-day period with a testing period of three hours each day. There are several components to the written exams, which vary according to the specific performance area. In every case, the minor area shall be one component of the exam. The student should consult the major professor for information on the specific components of the exam.

More on Prospectus

The prospectus is a contract with your chair and committee describing the planned final project. It is required for all final projects: Dissertation, Monograph, Lecture-Recital with Written Document, and Portfolio/Non-Thesis. At a minimum, the prospectus will include the following:

- The topic: a definition and description of its focus and scope
- Resources required: a general description of resources needed for the project and a statement about their availability
- Methodology: A statement about methods and procedures
- Bibliography/Sources: A representative bibliography

The prospectus must be approved by the student's committee and submitted via email in its final, approved version to the Associate Director for Graduate Studies prior to the student completing the Request for Final Examination. The approved prospectus will be placed in the student's file in the School of Music. The prospectus must be approved by the end of the semester of the general exam.

Final Exam

The Final Exam is a presentation and two hour oral defense of all aspects of the final project. A minimum of 3 calendar months must elapse between passing the General Exam Defense and the completion of all requirements for the doctoral degree (including the Final Exam and Defense).

To request a Final Exam, an official copy of the doctoral student's prospectus must be on file with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

The program for the doctoral degree must be completed within 7 years from the time a student is classified as a doctoral student.

Research Projects for Doctoral Concentrations

Dissertation Research: Requirements and Specifics

A dissertation is required of all students in PhD degree programs (music education, music theory, music history, composition, and experimental music/digital media). A minimum of nine credit hours of MUS 9000 is required. The dissertation must be an original contribution to knowledge in the student's major field of study. It should demonstrate a mastery of research techniques, ability to complete original and independent research, and skill in formulating conclusions that in some way enlarge upon or modify prior research.

Music Education

The PhD dissertation in music education is one that makes a significant and unique contribution to the theoretical understanding of teaching and learning music. Often these dissertations are results of basic research in tempo, pitch, dynamics, timbre, style discrimination, preference, and/or performance. Other dissertations might concern unique, innovative approaches to music teaching and learning at any age level, in school or community settings.

Music Theory and Music History

The PhD dissertation in music theory or music history (musicology) is one that makes a significant and unique contribution to the research in theory or music history. Consultation with your major professor and doctoral committee is important in the determination of an appropriate topic.

Composition

The final research project in composition consists of two parts. The first part is a research document of the approximate scope and size of a DMA monograph on some aspect of contemporary music. It may consist of a study of the contributions of a composer, of a group of compositions, or individual concepts and techniques regarding trends in contemporary composition. The second part consists of a musical composition of significant scope at least 15-20 minutes in duration, which must include a large ensemble.

Experimental Music/Digital Media (EMDM)

The final research project in experimental music/digital media should make a significant and unique contribution to the art, practice, and theoretical understanding of experimental music and

digital media. Such contributions would include a written document, along with an original composition, a performance recital or other digitally mediated content of extended scope and depth, all of which engages musical experimentation and digital media.

Monograph MUS 9009

A monograph is required for all DMA candidates in conducting and is an *option* for all other DMA candidates. The monograph is normally of somewhat narrower scope than a dissertation, but it otherwise involves the same high level of research and rigorous documentation one associates with a doctoral dissertation.

Lecture Recital with Written Document MUS 9010

Please see further details in Appendix A below. This is an option in place of the DMA monograph; it does not count as one of your required recitals. The lecture recital synthesizes performance and scholarship with an end goal of expressive communication with an audience of listeners. It is a public facing practice that will serve you well in your professional future. The lecture recital with written document has two distinct parts: (a) a formal paper and (b) a recital with oral presentation or explication. Consider topics in performance practice, analysis, pedagogy, editions, new music, or other areas of interest. Consider the interpretive, comparative, or critical essay, the position paper, a review of literature, or other. Format for this hour-long recital is variable and should be determined in consultation with your major professor.

The lecture cannot be a literal repeat of the written document, and the paper should not be a transcript of the lecture recital.

DMA Portfolio

The DMA Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography.

Portfolio Example: While at LSU, a doctoral pianist developed an interest in American composers who used jazz and ragtime elements in their piano music. For his three portfolio recitals, each showcased works—chamber and solo piano—that reflected this hybrid approach. There was music by William Bolcom, William Albright, Fred Hersch, Joe Makholm and others. In one recital—a lecture recital—he provided insight into the music of ragtime master Eubie Blake, who had a strong influence on Albright and Bolcom. This music is virtually unknown in his native country, so in recent years he has been busy performing it in his home country, which has helped him develop a distinctive voice as a performer. The thematic approach to the Portfolio project captured something special that would not have happened if he'd gone the monograph route. He is currently on the faculty of the University of Costa Rica.

Formatting the Prospectus. In consultation with your major professor, adopt the formatting elements found in the [Graduate School Handbook](#). Correct format for the Prospectus carries over into correct format for the Final written document. For the Portfolio Prospectus, see Appendix B.

All Final Research Project course numbers may be repeated for credit. Students may take additional research credits over the minimum required to complete the project. All Final Research Projects require approval of a Prospectus (see policy above, and formatting directions directly below).

Final Examination and Request for Final Examination

When the final research project is completed, the candidate will submit to the Graduate School a [Request for Final Examination](#). The date for the Final Examination is set by the student and the committee chair in consultation with the candidate and other members of the committee. The committee should have the same members, including the Dean's Representative, as served for the General Examination. The candidate must supply each member of the committee, including the Dean's Representative, with a copy of the final version of the research project a minimum of two weeks before the date selected for the Final Examination.

Deadlines and procedures for scheduling and reporting the Final Exams are strictly enforced by the Graduate School. Students are strongly advised to meet all deadlines in order to avoid delays in graduation. To discuss the procedure, it is advisable to make an appointment with the Associate Director for Graduate Studies several months before the final exam.

Request for Remote Participation in Graduate Committees

Please see the current [Graduate School policy](#) concerning remote participation by committee members in barrier examinations.

Submission of Document to the Graduate School

After a successful defense of the final document and any final corrections required by the committee are completed, a report of the result of the Final Examination is sent forward to the Graduate School by the Associate Director for Graduate Studies. Students must complete and submit their Written Document, Monograph, or Dissertation in the [correct format](#) according to the guidelines of the Graduate School. Students are not cleared for graduation until the Graduate School provides final approval of the completed and corrected document. The student is responsible for meeting all formatting requirements and deadlines set by the Graduate School with regard to submission and uploading of completed documents.

MASTER OF MUSIC CURRICULAR TABLES

MM: BRASS PERFORMANCE
Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, or Tuba

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed in 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 70xx	Applied Lessons	3, 3, 3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
MUS 7128	Seminar in Brass Literature	3
Any combination of the following:		4
MUS 4223	Brass Chamber Music	
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4254	Symphonic Winds	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music History	3
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
MUS 7600	Sources in Music Study & Research	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major prof	2-3

MM: CHORAL CONDUCTING

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed in 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7221, 7722	Survey of Choral Literature I, II	3, 3
MUS 7771, 7772	Advanced Choral Conducting I, II	3, 3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
MUS 4235*	Chamber Singers	1 (min)
MUS 4236*	A Cappella Choir	1 (min)
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major prof	7

*Students enrolled in this program may be required to register in more than one ensemble per semester.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, conducting applicants should submit copies of programs and recordings from performances previously conducted, and will be required to complete a live ensemble conducting audition and interview, which will include demonstration of rehearsal and performance conducting skills, score knowledge, and sight-reading, as well as ear training, sight singing, diction, transposition, and knowledge of musical terms.

MM: COLLABORATIVE KEYBOARD

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7011	Keyboard Skills for Pianists	1
MUS 7055	Applied Collaborative Piano	2, 2, 2, 2
Choose one of the following two:		
MUS 7221	Solo Literature I for Voice	3
MUS 7222	Solo Literature II for Voice	3
MUS 7521	Instrumental Accompanying	2
MUS 7522	Vocal Accompanying	2
MUS 7998	Master's Recital	1, 1, 1
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Choose two from the following:		2
MUS 4222	Woodwind Chamber Music	
MUS 4223	Brass Chamber Music	
MUS 4224	String Chamber Music	
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, a live audition is required which will include two contrasting movements on an instrumental sonata, six songs representing at least three languages, and one aria or movement of an instrumental concerto. Sight reading is required. In addition, applicants may be asked to present one solo piano work from memory.

MM: COMPOSITION

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed in 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7051	Applied Graduate Composition	3, 3, 3
MUS 7703	Contemporary Musical Practices	3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
MUS 8000	Thesis Research	6
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in composition are required to present samples of their scores for evaluation.

MM: JAZZ STUDIES

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed in 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7054	Applied Graduate Jazz Study	3, 3
MUS 4255	Chamber Jazz	1, 1
MUS 4253	Jazz Band	1, 1
MUS 4735	Jazz Arranging	2
MUS 7176	Jazz Pedagogy	3
MUS 7160	Survey of Jazz Styles	3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, an audition is required in which students are expected to show competence in the improvisation of several different styles of mainstream and contemporary jazz and knowledge of standard jazz repertoire.

MM: MUSIC EDUCATION

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if it duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7765	Foundations of Music Education	3
MUS 7767	Quantitative Research in Music Education	3
MUS 7768	Qualitative Research in Music Education	3
MUS 7600	Sources of Music Study & Research	3
MUS 7801	Psychology of Music	3
MUS 8000*	Thesis Research (optional)	3-
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Support Area**		6
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	3

*The Thesis Option makes the MM Music Education a 36-hr degree. An oral defense is required, at which additional questions will be posed to test the student's comprehensive knowledge of the area of study

****Support Area: Graduate level coursework that relates logically to form a legitimate area. Chosen in consultation with major professor.**

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

If the undergraduate degree is not in music education but is in another area of music, applicants for the master's degree in music education normally complete additional requirements for certification (including one year of student teaching) before the master's degree is awarded. Certification requires up to 33 semester credit hours, 12 of which are student teaching credits. Course requirements are determined by the music education faculty using State Department of Education guidelines after an evaluation of the student's undergraduate transcript. Students should send a transcript to the Head of Music Education.

GRADUATE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE SEMINAR

Graduate students (Master's and PhD) and faculty in music education meet once per week during the semester to cover professional skills not covered in coursework, including in-depth examinations of research articles and methodological concepts, student practice for conference presentations and job talks, and discussion of professional expectations of a university faculty member.

MM: MUSIC THEORY

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7711	Seminar in Post-Tonal Analysis	3
MUS 7704	Studies in Linear Analysis	3
Any additional 7000 (X4)	Music Theory	3, 3, 3, 3
Other Studies in Music		
MUS 7780	Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level*	Chosen in consultation with advisor (outside Music Theory)	6
Thesis Option**		
MUS 8000	Thesis Research	6

*Electives must be selected from outside the major area of study. Consult with major professor.

** Thesis Option: Students may elect to write a thesis in lieu of the comprehensive exam. They must enroll in at least 6 hours of MUS 8000, in which case they will have only 3 hours of electives outside music theory.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in music theory are required to submit an example of their work in theory (preferably an analysis paper). An interview is recommended.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Students must demonstrate a reading ability in German. The requirement may be fulfilled through successful completion of a reading knowledge examination administered by the Music Theory area. Students may prepare for this exam in a variety of ways, including an appropriate language course.
- Keyboard proficiency: As tested by the Music Theory faculty

MM: MUSICOLOGY

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
Six 7000	Music History (courses or seminars)	18*
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
MUS 7780	Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with the major professor	6
Thesis Option		
MUS 8000	Thesis Research	6

*With the permission of their major professor, a student may elect to write a thesis in lieu of the final six hours of 7000-level Music History courses or seminars. If selecting this option, the student will enroll in six hours of MUS 8000. The thesis must document original research in musicology. Students must prepare a prospectus describing the scope and significance of the project, working methods, and basic bibliography. The prospectus must be approved by an advisory committee consisting of the major professor, a member of the musicology faculty and at least one other member of the graduate faculty. The thesis is defended during the oral portion of the Comprehensive Exam (see below).

Students must demonstrate a reading ability in at least one foreign language in addition to English and as appropriate to the course of study. The language requirement may be fulfilled through successful completion of a reading-knowledge examination administered by the Musicology area or by a designated member of an appropriate foreign-language department. Students may prepare for this exam in a variety of ways, including *Duolingo* or an appropriate language course.

STYLES EXAM

Students must pass a styles exam in which they place listening and score examples in their proper historical context and conjecture a genre, composer, and date. This exam, which is offered every fall and spring semester, should be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, allowing for remediation via the selection of appropriate coursework.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in musicology are required to present an example of written work in music history (for instance, a term paper for an undergraduate music history course).

MM: ORCHESTRAL CONDUCTING

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7775, 7776	Advanced Orchestral Conducting I, II	3, 3
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	1, 1, 1
MUS 4730	Orchestration	3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any 2 7000-level	Music History	3, 3*
	*MUS 7755 Romantic, MUS 7756 (Modern Era) Preferred	
MUS 7172	Stringed Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUS 7600	Sources of Music Study & Research	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor:	1

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, conducting applicants must submit conducting video of at least two works, in either rehearsal or performance, contrasting in style, with a total duration of 10-25 minutes. (Camera must be facing the candidate.) as well as video of candidate performing on their major instrument, for a total duration of 3-10 minutes. Final candidates will be required to complete a live ensemble conducting audition and interview. During live interview process, candidates will be assessed in score reading and aural skill abilities. To ensure that candidates have necessary podium time to complete the degree, a limited number of candidates per academic year will be accepted into the program.

MM: PERCUSSION PERFORMANCE

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7049	Applied Graduate Percussion	3, 3, 3
MUS 4226	Percussion Ensemble	1, 1
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Of the next two, choose 2 credit hours		2 total
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
Of the next two, choose 2 credit hours		
MUS 7130	Seminar in Percussion Literature	2 total
MUS 7175	Percussion Pedagogy	
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
MUS 7600	Sources of Music Study & Research	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in percussion performance are required to perform an audition of selections on different media. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request permission to audition by recorded media.

MM: PIANO PEDAGOGY

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 4763, 4764	Piano Methods and Materials	3, 3
MUS 7501, 7502	Piano Pedagogy and Literature	2, 2
MUS 7997	Master's Pedagogy Project	2
Choose two from the following:		6 total
MUS 7777, 7778	Advanced Keyboard Literature I, II	
MUS 4757, 4758	Piano Literature I, II	
Other Studies in Music		
MUS 7031	Applied Graduate Piano	3, 3
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in piano pedagogy are required to play an audition and submit a sample teaching video. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request permission to audition by recorded media.

MM: PIANO PERFORMANCE

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7031	Applied Graduate Piano	3, 3, 3
MUS 7777, 7778	Advanced Keyboard Literature I, II	3, 3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	6

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in piano performance are required to perform an audition of selections from different styles and periods. Although a live audition is preferred, out-of-state applicants may request permission to audition by recorded media.

MM: STRING PERFORMANCE

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 70xx	Applied Graduate Lessons	3, 3, 3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
MUS 4224	String Chamber Music	1, 1
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	1, 1, 1, 1
MUS 7124	Seminar in String Literature	2
Choose one of the following		1 total
MUS 7798	Additional Master's Recital (chamber music)	
MUS 9005	Concerto with Orchestra	
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in string performance are required to perform an audition of selections from different styles and periods. Although a live audition is preferred, out-of-state applicants may request permission to audition by recorded media.

MM: VOCAL PERFORMANCE

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7030	Applied Graduate Voice	3, 3
MUS 7221, 7222	Solo Literature for Voice	3, 3
MUS 7170	Advanced Vocal Pedagogy	2
MUS 7018	Advanced German Diction	1
MUS 7019	Advanced French Diction	1
MUS 7020	Advanced Italian Diction	1
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	4

Note: Ensemble assignments will be determined by the Director of Choral Studies, Music Director of LSU Opera, and the Area Chair of Voice/Opera. Assignments are based on need, qualifications, and audition.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in vocal performance are required to perform an audition of four selections representing vocal literature in Italian, French, German, and English (only one of which may be an opera aria). Although an in-person audition is preferred, out-of-state applicants may submit a recording.

MM: WIND CONDUCTING

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed in 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7773, 7774	Advanced Band Conducting I, II	3, 3
MUS 7723, 7724	Survey of Wind Literature I, II	2, 2
MUS 7998	Special Topics in Music	2, 2
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Choose from the following:		3 total
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4254	Symphonic Winds	
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	4

Note: Students enrolled in this program may be required to register in more than one ensemble per semester.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, conducting applicants should submit copies of programs and recordings from performances previously conducted, and will be required to complete a live ensemble conducting audition and interview, which will include demonstration of rehearsal and performance conducting skills, score knowledge, and sight-reading ability, as well as ear training, sight singing, transposition, and knowledge of musical terms. In order to ensure that candidates have necessary podium time to complete the degree, normally only two candidates per academic year will be accepted into the program.

MM: WOODWIND PERFORMANCE
Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, or Saxophone

A minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit is required to complete the degree. Up to 6 hours of graduate credit may be transferred from another institution if such credit duplicates required or elective courses at LSU and is approved by the faculty head of the subject area. The Master's degree must be completed within 5 years.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 70xx	Applied Graduate Lessons	3, 3, 3
MUS 7798	Master's Recital	3
Choose from one of the following:		2 total
MUS 7126	Seminar in Woodwind Literature	
MUS 7173	Woodwind Pedagogy	
Choose any of the following:		4 (min)
MUS 4222	Woodwind Chamber Music	
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4254	Symphonic Winds	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000	Music Theory	3
Any 7000	Music History	3
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in Consultation with major professor	6

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in woodwind performance are required to perform an audition of selections of different musical styles and periods. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request permission to audition by recorded media.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS CURRICULUM TABLES

DMA: BRASS PERFORMANCE

Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, or Tuba

The DMA curriculum in brass performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach applied music and related courses at the college or university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours acceptable graduate coursework beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 70xx	Applied Lessons	3, 3
MUS 9935, 9936	Seminar in Literature & Style in Performance	3, 3
MUS 4223	Brass Chamber Music	2
Choose from the following:		2 total
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
Choose 4 from the following:		9-11
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9005*	Concerto with Orchestra (1)	
MUS 9008	DMA Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Other Studies in Music		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Any two 7000	Music History	3, 3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Any MUS 7000	Music Theory	3
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with minor area professor	9 (minimum)
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with major professor	2
Final Research Project*		9 (min)

*May not be repeated under Portfolio Option

Final Research Project: With approval of Major Professor and Advisory Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options (9 hours minimum)

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants must perform an audition of advanced solo works from the standard literature representative of various styles and periods. A live audition is preferred, but applicants may request permission to send a recording or video.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)

- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9005 Concerto with Orchestra, 1-2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- Others as approved

DMA: CHORAL CONDUCTING

The DMA curriculum in choral conducting is designed to prepare choral musicians in the skills necessary to research, rehearse, and conduct authentic and artistic performances of choral music at the college or university level or in professional settings. The degree requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable credit beyond a 30-hour master's degree in music.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7928, 7929	Seminar in Choral Repertoire	3, 3
MUS 7721, 7722	Survey of Choral Literature	3, 3
MUS 7771, 7772	Advanced Choral Conducting	3, 3
Other Required Coursework in Music		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Any additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recitals		
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Recital	3
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Recital	3
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with minor professor	9 min.
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3
Final Research Project		9 (min)

Final Research Project: With approval of Major Professor and Advisory Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options (9 hours minimum)

Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph

Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document

Note: Students enrolled in this program may be required to register in more than one choral ensemble per semester.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in choral conducting must submit the following: a) a resume or CV; b) complete lists of works conducted in performance; c) an audio recording of 20-30 minutes which exhibits choral performance from a variety of style/periods; and d) a video recording of choral rehearsals and/or performances. An on-campus audition is required.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Ensemble: DMA students are expected to participate in appropriate ensemble(s) each semester. Depending upon the student's experience, some of those accumulated hours may be counted toward the degree. Piano Proficiency: Each student must demonstrate, prior to the general exams, ability to read simple choral open scores and independent lines in all clefs, to realize piano reductions of choral scores, and to transpose and play independent lines of instrumental scores.

DMA: COLLABORATIVE KEYBOARD

The DMA curriculum in Collaborative Keyboard is designed to prepare students to be successful collaborators, as well as teachers of collaborative piano and other coursework at the college or university level. In addition, the curriculum is focused on fostering critical thinking that will pertain to all aspects of their career. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7055	Graduate Collaborative Keyboard	3, 3
10 credit hrs from among:		10 total
MUS 7810	Cognition and Effective Music Learning (2)	
MUS 7521	Instrumental Collaborative Piano (2)	
MUS 7522	Vocal Collaborative Piano (2)	
MUS 7998*	Special Topics in Music (2, 2)	
MUS 7997	Individual Project in Music (2, 2)	
MUS 7221 or 7222	Solo Literature for Voice	3
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Required Recitals		
MUS 9008	Doctoral Chamber Music Recital	2, 2, 2, 2
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor professor	9 (min.)
Final Research Project**		9 (min.)

* Possible Topics: Lyric Diction and Vocal Coaching, Chamber Music and Instrumental Sonatas, Orchestral Reductions and Conducting, Entrepreneurship

** **Final Research Project** (9 minimum): With the approval of the Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Option 1: MUS 9009 | Monograph |
| Option 2: MUS 9010 | Lecture Recital with Written Document |
| Portfolio | Described below |

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in collaborative piano are required to perform a live audition. Audition repertoire will include a complete instrumental sonata (chosen from a list provided by main professor on the LSU website), six art songs in at least three different languages, and one operatic aria or movement of an instrumental concerto. One work must be memorized.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses will be selected from the following list:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| MUS 9758 | Repertoire, 3 credits |
| MUS 9759 | Repertoire, 3 credits |
| MUS 9003 | Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits |
| MUS 9008 | Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits |

MUS 7998	Special Topics in Music, 2-3 credits
MUS 7997	Individual Projects in Music, 2-3 credits
MUS 7750	Special Studies in Piano Literature, 3 credits
MUS 7221 or 7222	Solo Literature for Voice, 3 credits
MUS 7020	Advanced Italian Diction for Singers, 1 credit
MUS 7019	Advanced French Diction for Singers, 1 credit
MUS 7018	Advanced German Diction for Singers, 1 credit
Others as approved	

DMA: ORCHESTRAL CONDUCTING

The DMA curriculum in Orchestral Conducting is designed to prepare students in the knowledge and skills necessary to research, rehearse, and conduct authentic and artistic performances of orchestral music at the college or university level or in professional settings. The degree requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable credit beyond a 30-hour master's degree in music.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7775, 7776	Advanced Orchestral Conducting	3, 3
MUS 7725, 7726	Survey of Symphonic Literature	2, 2
MUS 9758, 9759	Repertoire	3, 3
*MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	2 (min, 1 per sem)
Other Required Coursework in Music		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recitals		
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Recital	3
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Recital	3
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with Minor advisor	9 min.
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3
Final Research Project*		9 min.

Final Research Project: With approval of Major Professor and Advisory Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options (9 hours minimum)

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: Portfolio Description below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in orchestral conducting must submit the following: a) a CV chronicling conducting experience in public school, community, college/university work, or in professional settings; b) conducting video of at least two works, in either rehearsal or performance, contrasting in style, for a total duration of 10-25 minutes (camera must be facing the candidate, as well as video of candidate performing on their major instrument, for a duration of 3-10 minutes. An on-campus audition/interview is required for applicants living in the United States. Applicants living outside of the United States will be evaluated based on a Zoom interview in addition to the above-mentioned submissions of application material. During the final interview process, candidates will be assessed in score reading, repertoire knowledge, error detection, keyboard proficiency and aural skill abilities.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Piano Proficiency: Each student must demonstrate, prior to the general exam, ability to read and transpose orchestra scores by playing independent lines in all clefs.

Ensemble: DMA students are expected to participate in appropriate ensemble(s) each semester. Depending upon the student's experience, some of those accumulated hours may be counted toward the degree.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial

and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9006 Major Solo Part in an Oratorio or Cantata, 1 credit (maximum of 1 credit)
- MUS 9007 Major Role in Opera, 1-3 credits (maximum of 4 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7749 Keyboard Literature, (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: PERCUSSION PERFORMANCE

The DMA curriculum in Percussion Performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach percussion and related courses at the college/university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7049	Applied Percussion	3, 3, 3
MUS 9937	Seminar in Literature & Style in Perf.	
Ensembles	Per audition result	3 min.
MUS 4251	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
MUS 4226	Percussion Ensemble	
Other Required Coursework in Music		
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Required Recitals	Select three from the following	7-8
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9005*	Concerto with Orchestra (1)	
MUS 9008	Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor Prof	9 min.
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	5-6
Final Research Project**		9 min.

* Not repeatable under Portfolio Option

Final Research Project: With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options:

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in percussion are required to perform an audition of advanced works from the standard literature. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request to audition by recorded media.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique

music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9005 Concerto with Orchestra, 1-2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: PIANO PERFORMANCE

The DMA curriculum in Piano Performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach piano and related courses at the college or university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7031	Applied Graduate Piano	3, 3
MUS 7777, 7778	Advanced Keyboard Literature I, II	3, 3
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Required Recitals		9 min.
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9005	Concerto with Orchestra (1)	
MUS 9008	Doctoral Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor Prof.	9 min.
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	6
Final Research Project*		9 min.

***Final Research Project:** With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options:

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio See Description below under “Final Research Project”

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in piano performance are required to perform an audition of selections from different musical epochs. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request permission to audition by recorded media.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9005 Concerto with Orchestra, 1-2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7749 Keyboard Literature, (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: STRING PERFORMANCE

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass

The DMA curriculum in string performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach the applied major and related courses at the college or university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 70xx	Applied Graduate Lessons	3, 3, 3
MUS 9931	Sem. In Literature & Style in Performance	3
Other Required Coursework in Music		
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Ensembles		
MUS 4224	String Chamber Music	1, 1
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	1, 1
Required Recitals		9 min.
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9008	Doctoral Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Select two from the following:		3 min.
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9003	Doctoral Lecture Recital (1-3)	
MUS 9005*	Concerto with Orchestra (1-2)	
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor Prof.	9 min.
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	2-3
Final Research Project**		9 min.

*Not repeatable under Portfolio Option

****Final Research Project:** With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project

will be determined from the following options:

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants are required to perform an audition of selections from different musical epochs. Although a live audition is preferred, the applicant may request permission to audition by recorded media.

RECITALS

Each DMA candidate shall present four DMA performances, the nature of which are determined after the successful completion of the Qualifying Recital. Repertoire for solo recitals may not have appeared on any previous recitals given to satisfy a bachelor's or master's degree program. It may include material from the audition and/or Qualifying Recital, so long as the above stipulation is met. Repertoire must be approved at the beginning of the semester in which the recital is to be presented.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final

submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9005 Concerto with Orchestra, 1-2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7749 Keyboard Literature, (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: VOCAL PERFORMANCE

The DMA curriculum in Vocal Performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach at the college/university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree. A master's degree in performance (or its equivalent) and a high level of performance are required for admission.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7030	Applied Lessons	3, 3
MUS 9758, 9759	Repertoire	3, 3
MUS 9925, 9926	Sem. in Literature & Style in Performance	3, 3
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recitals		
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital	3
Select two from the following:	Consult with advisor	5 min.
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9003*	Doctoral Lecture Recital (3)	
MUS 9005*	Concerto with Orchestra (1)	
MUS 9006*	Major Solo Part in an Oratorio or Cantata (1)	
MUS 9007	DMA Role in Opera (1-3)	
MUS 9008	DMA Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Minor	Chosen in consultation with advisor	12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level**	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3 min.
Final Research Project***		9 min.

*Not repeatable under Portfolio option.

**Suggested electives include courses in applied lesson, literature, pedagogy, and ensembles.

*****Final Research Project:** With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options:

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, and if invitation is presented, applicants must perform a live audition of selections from different musical epochs. A live audition is preferred; however, the applicant may request to audition by recorded media.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Each DMA voice student will be required to have studied two foreign languages (selected from French, German, and Italian). There must be two semesters or the equivalent of undergraduate study in one language. In the second language, proficiency must be shown as equivalent to one semester of a reading course or two semesters or the equivalent of undergraduate study. See the Voice Area Policies handbook online for further details

RECITALS

MUS 9001 (First Doctoral Solo Recital) is required and must be given before any other recitals. Repertoire for solo recitals may not have appeared on any previous recitals for a bachelor's or master's degree program. Material from the Audition and/or Qualifying Audition may be included so long as the above stipulation is met. Repertoire must be approved well in advance by members of the voice faculty

serving on the student advisory committee.

ENSEMBLE ASSIGNMENT

Ensemble assignments, for either a semester or academic year, are determined by the Director of Choral Activities, Music Director of LSU Opera and the Division Chair of the Voice/Opera Division. The needs of the ensembles are of prime consideration when the assignments are made.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9006 Major Solo Part in an Oratorio or Cantata, 1 credit (maximum of 1 credit)
- MUS 9007 Major Role in Opera, 1-3 credits (maximum of 4 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7749 Keyboard Literature, (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: WIND CONDUCTING

The DMA curriculum in wind conducting is designed to prepare wind musicians in the skills necessary to research, rehearse, and conduct authentic and artistic performances of wind music at the college/university level or in professional settings. The degree requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable credit beyond a 30-hour master's degree in music.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 9758, 9759	Repertoire	3, 3
MUS 7723, 7724	Survey of Wind Literature	2, 2
MUS 7773, 7774	Advanced Wind Conducting	3, 3
MUS 4521	Wind Ensemble	2 min.
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level*	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recitals	Two from the following:	5-6 total
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Recital (3)	
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Recital (3)	
MUS 9003*	Doctoral Lecture Recital (1-3)	
MUS 9008	Doctoral Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with advisor	12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level	Selected in consultation with advisor	1-3
Final Research Project**		9 min.

*May not be repeated under Portfolio

****Final Research Project:** With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined from the following options:

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants in wind conducting must submit the following: a) a resume or CV; b) complete lists of works conducted in performance and/or rehearsal; c) an audio recording of 20-30 minutes which exhibits wind band performance from a variety of styles/periods; and d) a video recording of wind band rehearsals and/or performances. An on-campus audition is required.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Piano Proficiency: Each student must demonstrate, prior to the general exams, ability to read and transpose band/wind ensemble scores by playing independent lines in all clefs.

Ensemble: DMA students are expected to participate in appropriate ensemble(s) each semester. Depending upon the student's experience, some of those accumulated hours may be counted toward the degree.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9006 Major Solo Part in an Oratorio or Cantata, 1 credit (maximum of 1 credit)
- MUS 9007 Major Role in Opera, 1-3 credits (maximum of 4 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7749 Keyboard Literature, (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DMA: WOODWIND PERFORMANCE

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, or Saxophone

The DMA curriculum in wind performance is designed to prepare students to be artist-performers and to teach applied music and related courses at the college-university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree. A master's degree in performance or the equivalent and/or evidence of a high level of performance are required for admission.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 70xx	Applied Lessons	3, 3
MUS 7173	Woodwind Pedagogy	2
MUS 7126, 7127	Seminar in Woodwind Literature	2, 2
Ensembles	Choose from the following:	2 min.
MUS 4251*	Wind Ensemble	
MUS 4261	Symphony Orchestra	
MUS 4222	Woodwind Chamber Music	2
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recitals	Select three from the following, one must be 9001	6 min.
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9002	Second Doctoral Solo Recital (3)	
MUS 9003**	Doctoral Lecture Recital (1-3)	
MUS 9005**	Concerto with Orchestra (1-2)	
MUS 9008	DMA Chamber Music Recital (2)	
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	2
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with Minor Professor	12 normally
Final Research Project**		9

*Students may, at the discretion of the student's major professor, substitute different ensembles to meet the ensemble requirement.

**May not be repeated under Portfolio Option

Final Research Project: With approval of Major Professor and Doctoral Committee, the final project will be determined

from the following options (9 hours minimum)

- Option 1: MUS 9009 Monograph
- Option 2: MUS 9010 Lecture Recital with Written Document
- Option 3: Portfolio Described below

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants are required to perform an audition of advanced solo works from the standard literature representative of various styles and periods.

RECITALS

Each DMA candidate is required to present three DMA performances, the nature of which will be determined after the successful completion of the Qualifying Recital. Repertoire for solo recitals may not have appeared on any previous recitals given to satisfy a bachelor's or master's degree program. It may include material from the audition and/or Qualifying Recital, so long as the above stipulation is met. Repertoire must be approved by the major professor at the beginning of the semester in which the recital is to be presented.

PORTFOLIO

The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, timeline, list of the package of recitals/courses with explanations, and bibliography. See Appendix for a Portfolio prospectus template and an outline for the completed portfolio/non-thesis for final submission.

Courses may be selected from the following:

- MUS 9001 Doctoral Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 6 credits)
- MUS 9003 Doctoral Lecture Recital, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9005 Concerto with Orchestra, 1-2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 9008 Doctoral Chamber Music Recital, 2 credits (maximum of 2 credits)
- MUS 7998 Special Topics in Music, 3 credits (maximum of 9 credits)
- MUS 9758 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)
- MUS 9759 Repertoire, 3 credits (maximum of 3 credits)

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CURRICULUM TABLES

PhD: COMPOSITION

The PhD curriculum in composition is designed to prepare students to compose professionally and/or to teach composition at the college-university level. A Master's degree in composition, or equivalent, is required to enter the program. The degree requires 51 hours of acceptable credit beyond a 30-hour master's degree in music.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7501	Graduate Composition	3, 3
MUS 7703	Contemporary Musical Practice	3
MUS 7745	Computer Music	3
MUS 9000	Dissertation Research	9
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with Minor Professor	12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants must submit a list of compositions, scores in a variety of media, and recordings.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Each PhD Composition student will be required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language at the level of two semesters of study. Language and proficiency shall be determined in consultation with the composition faculty.

OTHER REQUIREMENT

Composers Forum: All composition majors are required to participate in this weekly symposium. the major area, minor area, and other pertinent musical knowledge.

DISSERTATION

The dissertation includes as the final research project two components: a) An original composition of no less than 20 minutes employing orchestra, such as a symphony, opera, cantata, oratorio, or concerto. This work may also include electro-acoustically generated sounds. b) An original report demonstrating original research on a topic other than the candidate's own composition. It may consist of a study of the contributions of a composer, of a group of compositions, or individual concepts and techniques of composition in contemporary practice. Prior to beginning the dissertation, the student must submit a prospectus to the advisory committee for approval of the entire research project. Students who have demonstrated to the composition faculty a mastery of the orchestra through written composition equivalent to the dissertation's required composition may present a work that does not include orchestra.

PhD: EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC & DIGITAL MEDIA

The PhD curriculum in Experimental Music & Digital Media (EM/DM) is designed to prepare students to be composers, performers or music researchers whose work explores music technology, digital media and experimentation in either professional or academic settings. Graduates will also be prepared to teach electroacoustic music, digital media and music technology at the college-university level. It requires a minimum of 60 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 credit hour master's degree. A master's degree in music, computer science, electrical/computer engineering or related field, and evidence of previous experience in EM/DM are required to enter this curriculum.

CURRICULUM

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7745	Computer Music	3
MUS 7746	Seminar in EMDM	6
MUS 7747	History of Electroacoustic Music	3
Mus 9000	Dissertation Research	9
Choose 6 credits from among:		6 total
MUS 7051	Applied Composition (2-6)	
MUS 7053	Applied Electroacoustic Music (2-6)	
MUS 70xx	Applied Instrument Lessons (2-6)	
Required Support Coursework		
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
MUS 7700	Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
Additional 7000-level	Music Theory	3
Any two 7000-level	Music History	3, 3
Required Recital		
MUS 9001	First Doctoral Solo Recital	3
Minor Area	Selected in consultation with Minor Professor	6-12
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3-9

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants to this program must submit a portfolio representative of their prior work in this area. The portfolio should include scores (where applicable), recorded media, and a list of work that demonstrates the student's interest and abilities in experimental music, electroacoustic music, or digital media

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Each PhD EMDM student will be required to demonstrate advanced reading knowledge in a foreign language appropriate to their studies. Language and proficiency shall be determined in consultation with the EMDM faculty.

MINOR

If composition, applied music, music history or music theory is chosen as the minor area, the required courses in this area MAY (if agreed upon in consultation with the minor professor) count toward fulfillment of the minor requirement.

RECITAL

Students will be required to present a recital, the nature of which is to be determined by the student's committee after the General Examination. The recital should include compositions the student has written or prepared for performance during his/her residency in the program, and (where applicable) the composition portion of the student's dissertation.

DISSERTATION

The PhD dissertation should make a significant and unique contribution to the art, practice and theoretical understanding of experimental music and digital media. Such contributions would include a

written document, along with an original composition, a performance recital or other digitally mediated content of extended scope and depth all of which engages musical experimentation and digital media. The full nature of the dissertation is to be proposed in a prospectus by the student and must be approved by the student's advisory committee.

PhD: MUSIC EDUCATION

The PhD curriculum in Music (Music Education concentration) is offered to students who show promise as outstanding researchers and master teachers of music. The degree is awarded to candidates who complete the course of study with distinction, demonstrating outstanding ability in original research, scholarly study, and excellence in teaching. The degree requires 56 hours beyond the master's degree in music.

Major Area		Credit hrs
Choose 5		15 hrs total
MUS 4261	Music Technology II	3
MUS 7570	College Teaching in Music	3
MUS 7762	Measurement & Evaluation in Music	3
MUS 7763	Current Methods in Elementary Music Education	3
MUS 7764	Current Methods in Secondary Music Education	3
MUS 7765	Foundation of Music Education	3
MUS 7766	Current Issues in Music Education	3
MUS 7767	Quantitative Research in Music Education	3
MUS 7768	Qualitative Research in Music Education	3
MUS 7801	Psychology of Music	3
MUS 9000	Dissertation Research	9
Other Studies in Music		
Any MUS 7000	Music Theory	3
Any MUS 7000	Music History	3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Research Competency		
ELRC 4000-level		4
ELRC 7000-level		4
Minor Area		12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level	Selected in consultation with major professor	3-6

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants must submit video evidence of teaching/rehearsing. Applicants in music education must have a minimum of three years of full-time contractual teaching in either elementary, secondary, or university settings. A personal on-campus interview is required for all finalists for graduate financial awards.

GRADUATE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE SEMINAR

Graduate students (Master's and PhD) and faculty in music education meet once per week during the semester to cover professional skills not covered in coursework, including in-depth examinations of research articles and methodological concepts, student practice for conference presentations and job talks, and discussion of professional expectations of a university faculty member. Students wishing to receive credit for seminar may register for a single credit of MUS 7905 – Seminar in Music Education each semester of the program. Credit is optional and not required for graduation.

MAJOR PROFESSOR

Early in their tenure at LSU, the student will select a major professor from among the music education faculty. This person should be aligned with the student in one or more ways: 1) research expertise (qualitative, experimental, etc.), 2) content expertise (choral, strings, etc.), 3) area of interest (assessment, cognition, early childhood education, etc.), and/or 4) shared personality and capacity to work well together. The major professor will typically supervise the intermediate project and chair the general examination/dissertation. Students are free to switch major professor for any reason, including the faculty member taking another university position, personality differences, etc., and with approval of the new major professor.

DISSERTATION

The PhD dissertation in music education makes an original, unique, and significant contribution to the understanding of music teaching and learning. Chosen in consultation with the major professor, a wide range of topic areas apply, among them instructional strategies, learning and development, music teacher education, perception and cognition, popular music education, history of music education, early childhood music education, creativity and improvisation, assessment and evaluation, issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion, and adult or community music. Past students have employed both qualitative and quantitative research.

PhD: MUSICOLOGY

This program is intended to develop in students the knowledge, concepts, and techniques for musicological research and to prepare students for teaching music history at the college/university level. It requires a minimum of 54 hours of acceptable graduate credit beyond a 30 semester-hour master's degree. Students must complete all the requirements for the Master of Music degree in Musicology at LSU or the equivalent at another institution, plus the requirements as noted below.

Required Coursework		Credits
MUS 7780	Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology	3
MUS 9000	Dissertation Research	9 min.
Other Coursework	Complete 8 (min) of the following:	24 (min)
MUS 7751	Ancient & Medieval Music	
MUS 7752	Music of the Renaissance	
MUS 7753	Music in the Baroque Era	
MUS 7754	Music in the Classical Era	
MUS 7755	Music in the Romantic Era	
MUS 7756	Music in the Modern Era	
MUS 7757	American Music	
MUS 7903	Seminar in Music History	
MUS 7904	Topics in Music History	
MUS 7701	Pedagogy of Music Theory	
MUS 7710	Theory & Analysis of Tonal Music	
MUS 7704	Studies in Linear Analysis	
MUS 7711	Seminar in Post-Tonal Analysis	
MUS 7741	History of Music Theory I	
MUS 7742	History of Music Theory II	
MUS 7921	Seminar in Music Theory	
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	6
Minor Area Outside Music	Chosen in consultation with Minor Professor	12 normally

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants who did not receive a Master's degree in Musicology from LSU should also submit an example of written work in music history (for instance, a Master's thesis or term paper for a music history course).

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Students must demonstrate a reading ability in at least two foreign languages in addition to English and as appropriate to the course of study. The language requirement may be fulfilled through successful completion of a reading-knowledge examination administered by the Musicology area or by a designated member of an appropriate foreign-language department. Students may prepare for this exam in a variety of ways, including *Duolingo* or an appropriate language course.

STYLES EXAM

Students must pass a styles exam in which they place listening and score examples in their proper historical context and conjecture a genre, composer, and date. This exam, which is offered every fall and spring semester, should be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, allowing for remediation via the selection of appropriate coursework.

DISSERTATION

The dissertation must represent an original contribution to the field of learning. When the student has decided on a subject for research, he/she prepares a prospectus in which the limits of the area, the significance, the working methods, etc., are set forth.

PhD: MUSIC THEORY

This program is intended to develop in students the knowledge, concepts, and techniques for analysis and theoretical research and to prepare students for teaching music theory at the college/university level. Students must complete (or have previously completed) all requirements for the Master of Music degree in Music Theory at LSU or its equivalent and at least 54 additional hours as required and noted below.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 7780	Introduction to Musicology, Music Theory, and Ethnomusicology	3
MUS 7701	Music Theory Pedagogy	3
MUS 7705	Advanced Linear Analysis	3
MUS 7742	History of Music Theory	3
MUS 7921	Seminar in Music Theory: Topics	3, 3
MUS 9000	Dissertation Research	9
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000-level	Music History	3
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor Professor	12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	9

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants must submit a sample of their work in music theory (preferably an analysis paper).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Students must demonstrate a reading ability in German. The requirement may be fulfilled through successful completion of a reading knowledge examination administered by the Music Theory area. Students may prepare for this exam in a variety of ways, including an appropriate language course. Additional coursework taken to satisfy the non-curricular language proficiency does not count toward degree.

Students also must demonstrate keyboard proficiency.

ADVANCED COMPUTER APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

The advanced computer application requirement for the Ph.D. concentration in music theory is fulfilled if the student can satisfy both of the following requirements:

- Submission of a portfolio of work created with the selected notation program.
- Successful completion of an examination in the use of the program details of these requirements are provided below.

PORTFOLIO

1. Printed documents created by the student with the designated program (either Finale or Sibelius, at the choice of the student) that illustrates proficiency in authoring each of the following document types:

A worksheet or quiz appropriate for a music theory course or lab that includes

- Written instructions
- Brief musical excerpts for analysis, e.g. excerpts from a four-part chorale or piano score
- Exercises with brief incomplete musical passages that the student must complete (e.g. part-writing exercises)

A handout appropriate for a conference presentation that includes

- Score excerpts with captions and analytical annotations

- Examples of graphic analysis (e.g. Schenkerian graphs)
- A formatted bibliography or list of sources

A transcription of a page or more of a published musical score, selected by the Music Theory Faculty, with all appropriate dynamics, tempo and performance indications, and related markings.

2. Readable computer files that correspond to the above.

PhD: PIANO PEDAGOGY

The PhD curriculum in Music (Piano Pedagogy concentration) is offered to students who show promise as outstanding researchers and master teachers of music. The degree is awarded to candidates who complete the course of study with distinction, demonstrating outstanding ability in original research, scholarly study, and excellence in teaching. The degree requires 56 hours beyond the master's degree in music.

Major Area		Credit hrs
MUS 4763, 4764	Piano Methods and Materials I & II	3, 3
MUS 7501, 7502	Piano Pedagogy I & II	2, 2
MUS 7500	Supervised Studio Instruction	1
MUS 7503	Teaching Group Piano	2
MUS 7504	Teaching Adults	2
MUS 9000	Dissertation Research	9
Other Studies in Music		
Any 7000-level	Music History	3
Any 7000-level	Music Theory	3
MUS 7800	Introduction to Research in Music	3
Research Competency		
ELRC 4000-level		4
ELRC 7000-level		4
Minor Area	Chosen in consultation with Minor Professor	12 normally
Electives at the Graduate Level	Chosen in consultation with advisor	3-6

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements described above in this document, applicants must submit video evidence of teaching (private or group, any level) and performing (solo or collaborative). Applicants in piano pedagogy should have a minimum of three years of full-time teaching. A personal on-campus interview and piano audition are required for all finalists for graduate financial awards.

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

All first-year doctoral students will complete a Qualifying Exam by the end of their first semester of study. The exam consists of the student interviewing with the advisory committee (piano pedagogy major professor and music education/music therapy/piano faculty, normally 3-4 faculty; dean's representative is not present for the qualifying examination). The student will submit their CV, statement of musicianship, and complete a short research-informed essay based on a list of provided prompts. The student will need to demonstrate sustained potential for graduate study and development in academic writing skills. Failure to pass the qualifying exam will result in the student being placed in a probationary state until they can re-take the exam the following semester. Failure to complete the exam a second time will result in potential dismissal from the PhD in music education program.

OTHER REQUIREMENT

Graduate students and faculty in piano pedagogy will participate in a bi-weekly piano pedagogy seminar to discuss current research, practitioner issues, and career preparation topics. When the piano pedagogy seminar does not meet, students are encouraged to attend the music education research collaborative seminar to become familiar with music education research articles and methodological concepts.

APPENDIX A: Lecture Recital with Written Document

Overview

The Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) Lecture Recital with Written Document serves as a culminating project that integrates scholarly research with performance. This is an option in place of the DMA monograph; it does not count as one of your required recitals. It is intended to demonstrate a student's ability to communicate critical and artistic ideas clearly, persuasively, and publicly.

Through the recital and written document, students explore a focused area of musical study—often performance practice, analysis, pedagogy, or historical context—offering new insights or interpretations supported by both research and live performance. The final presentation is designed to speak to both academic and general audiences and to reflect the professional standards expected in university settings and professional conferences.

Components

1. The Lecture Recital

The lecture recital is a public presentation lasting approximately 50 to 60 minutes, combining spoken lecture and live musical performance. A typical structure should include:

- 30-40 minutes of lecture
- Live performance examples integrated into the lecture
- An optional complete performance of one or more works, if the presentation calls for it
- A Q&A session with the audience at the end of the performance

The lecture should be engaging, well-paced, and prepared with an awareness of your audience. Performances should directly support the lecture content and demonstrate the artistic relevance of the research. The lecture cannot be a literal reading of the written document, but a separate entity.

2. The Written Document

The accompanying paper of approximately 30-60 pages (7,500 to 18,000 words), should present a focused research inquiry related to the lecture recital topic. It must go beyond the recital script and offer scholarly insight into the topic, supported by appropriate research. While formats may vary, common approaches include:

- Performance or stylistic analysis
- Historical or contextual study
- Pedagogical exploration
- Edition or source comparison
- Position papers on interpretation, repertoire, or methodology

The document must include appropriate citations and a bibliography. Again, the document should not be a transcript of the lecture. Likewise, the lecture should not simply summarize the written paper.

Evaluation Criteria

Students will be evaluated by their committee based on the following areas (suggested percentages below):

- Research & Scholarship – Depth of research; appropriate sources; clear connection to the topic (20%)
- Content & Argument – Clear thesis or theme; logical structure; originality and insight (20%)
- Performance – Technical skill, stylistic interpretation, expressiveness (20%)
- Lecture Delivery – Clarity, pacing, audience engagement, appropriate terminology (15%)
- Visuals/Handouts – Quality and relevance of any supplementary materials (10%)
- Q&A – Ability to respond thoughtfully and professionally to questions (10%)
- Professionalism – Preparation, organization, and overall presentation (5%)

The committee will determine whether the recital is Pass or Fail, with feedback provided afterward.

Prospectus & Approval Process

Students must submit a DMA Lecture Recital Prospectus that outlines the full scope and rationale of the topic. It must include:

- Approximately 10 – 15 pages (2,500-4,500 words)
- Topic title and research question
- Abstract• Rationale and objectives
- Overview of content and format
- Annotated bibliography
- Formatting based on Appendix A templates

Support and Resources

Students are encouraged to attend other lecture recitals during their time in the program. Questions about preparation, structure, or scheduling should be directed to your major professor and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies.

APPENDIX B: Portfolio Prospectus

DOCTORAL PORTFOLIO PROSPECTUS

Suggested Format for Contents of PROSPECTUS for DMA Portfolio (to be presented to committee for approval):

Format a title page as shown in the Graduate School's Thesis & Dissertation [Handbook](#). Substitute Prospectus for Dissertation.

Include a Signature Page. Include lines for Chair, Minor Professor, additional committee members, and date.

Prospectus: The Portfolio is available in some DMA areas, with the approval of the major professor and advisory committee. In consultation with the major professor, the student will create a substantial and unique music project, unified in purpose and facilitated by additional recitals and/or coursework (minimum 9 hours). The Portfolio Prospectus should describe the project in full—title, purpose, scope, benefit, research-based perspective/support, the package of recitals/courses with explanations, means/methods, timeline, and bibliography.