This degree is offered to candidates who have achieved distinction in the analysis of music and who demonstrate ability to do research and scholarly study.

I. Credit requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy degree requires a minimum of 94 semester credits beyond the bachelor's degree. 30 credits from the master’s degree count toward the 94, leaving 64 credits that remain to be completed during the doctorate (40 credits of coursework plus 24 credits of Dissertation). Note: if the student received the master’s degree from the FSU College of Music, all graduate-level credits (except remedial theory and remedial music history) count toward the doctorate.

II. Diagnostic examination

This exam consists of two analyses and a survey of the field of music theory. The student must attempt it during the first year and may retake it in the second year. The student may not register for a third doctoral seminar prior to passing the diagnostic exam. Failing to pass the diagnostic exam by the end of the second year will constitute unsatisfactory degree progress.

III. College of Music, Residence / Scholarly Engagement Requirement

Please consult the current Florida State University Graduate Bulletin for an overview of the Scholarly Engagement requirement for all doctoral students in the university. To meet the Scholarly Engagement requirement, College of Music doctoral students must 1) complete 24 graduate (5000-level or above) credit hours within any consecutive 12-month period; or 2) complete a minimum of eighteen (18) graduate credit hours in any consecutive 12-month period and submit to their Area Coordinator and/or faculty advisor evidence of additional Scholarly Engagement activities equivalent to 6 credit hours prior to completion of the degree. These activities may include enrolling in courses (additional credit hours); attending or presenting/performing in seminars, masterclasses, workshops, symposia, conferences and festivals; engaging in creative activities, research and collaborative study beyond the university campus; utilizing the library, laboratories and other facilities provided by the University; and other scholarly or creative activities as determined by area faculty and approved by the area coordinator and by the Director of Graduate Studies for the College of Music.

In sum, doctoral students in the College of Music must complete 24 Scholarly Engagement “points”, with each credit hour counting as one point and points for other activities determined by each area and degree program. Please consult the Program of Studies and your major professor for information on Scholarly Engagement activities recommended in your degree program.

IV. Language requirements

Required to demonstrate proficiency in two foreign languages as appropriate for the student's research interests. See language proficiency guidelines for details of how to demonstrate proficiency.

V. Competency examinations

Offered each semester on keyboard harmony, part writing, and musical styles. Ph.D. students in music theory must complete all three in order to graduate.
VI. Coursework and other requirements

A maximum of 30 credits may be transferred from a master's degree completed at another institution.

A. Major area

Required courses listed here; if taken previously elsewhere, contact advisor.

Music theory electives listed in section VI-C, below.

- MUT 5151: Readings in Music Theory (3 cr.)
- MUT 5627/5629: Schenkerian Analysis I–II (6 cr.)
- MUT 5628/MUS 5939-xx: Atonal Analysis I–II (6 cr.)
- MUT 5751/5752: Pedagogy of Music Theory I–II (6 cr.)
- MUT 5760: History of Theory (3 cr.)

Choose one:
- MUT 5655: Modal Counterpoint and Analysis (3 cr.)
- MUT 5656: Fugue (3 cr.)

Also required:
- MUT 6937: Doctoral Seminar in Music Theory, three semesters (9 cr.)
- MUS 6980: Dissertation (24 cr.)

B. Other studies in music

- MUS 5711: Music Bibliography (2 cr.)
  (May substitute if taken previously; must be approved by Director of Graduate Studies in Music.)
- MUH 5XXX: Music History courses (3 cr.)

C. Electives

Options within major area:
- MUT 5673: Musical Meaning and Performance (3 cr.)
- MUS 5939-xx: Perception and Cognition in Music Theory (3 cr.)
- MUT 5578: Popular Music Analysis (3 cr.)

Literature-based classes (not geared towards Ph.D. students but available as electives):
- MUT 5573: Music Since 1945 (3 cr.)
- MUT 5587: 18th-, 19th-, 20th-Century Styles (3 cr.)
- MUT 5618: Analysis of Masterworks (3 cr.)
- MUT 5619: Vocal Forms (3 cr.)
- MUT 5625: Instrumental Forms (3 cr.)

Outside of major area (consult with advisor):
- any MUC, MUG, MUN, MUL, MV_, MUH 5xxx or 6xxx course
- any MUS 5345, 5505, 5536, 5545, 5546–47, 5616, 5721, 5722, 5723
- any MUS "special topics" class relevant to the student’s interests
- up to 6 cr. of FSU coursework at the 5000 level or higher outside of music (e.g. psychology, mathematics, history, art history, literature, humanities, etc.)

Students must also enroll for the following:
- Preliminary exam (0 cr.)
  The Doctoral Preliminary Examination consists of written and oral sections and is taken when the student has completed all coursework or in the final semester of coursework. It is the responsibility of the student's major professor to determine when a student must take the examination. The student must be registered for MUS 8964 (0 cr.) during the semester in which the examination is taken.
- Dissertation defense (0 cr.)
  The student must be registered for MUS 8985 (0 cr.) during the semester in which the defense is conducted.

TOTAL CREDITS BEYOND BACHELOR'S DEGREE 94
Notes:

- Ph.D. students must take at least three doctoral seminars (MUT 6937) during their doctoral studies. If MUT 6937 was taken during a previous degree at FSU, the credits will count toward the Ph.D. as electives, but will not count toward the three required seminars.
- Contrapuntal Genres (MUT 5445) and Survey of Schenkerian Techniques (MUS 5939-xx) are surveys of material covered in more depth by other courses, and are not recommended for doctoral students in music theory.
- MUH 5219 and MUT 5051 are remedial/review class and do not fulfill degree requirements under any circumstances. These courses address past curricular deficiencies and/or comprehension levels of core curricular content, as determined by graduate music classification and placement assessments. Successful completion of these remedial (review) courses prepares students for graduate-level content courses in the disciplines of Music History and Music Theory.

Updated: February, 2020