

The University of Southern Mississippi

School of Music  
College of Arts and Letters

# Doctoral Handbook

Doctor of Musical Arts  
Doctor of Philosophy

*Please note:*

*This handbook is designed to assist and inform the graduate student of policies and procedures regarding the graduate program in The University of Southern Mississippi School of Music. Please consult with your major professor and the Director of the School of Music for additional information. The student has final responsibility for consulting the Graduate Bulletin for all university policies and procedures regarding graduate study and to ascertain that he/she has complied with all applicable requirements for graduation. Faculty advisers assist students in developing their programs, but these advisers cannot waive or vary degree requirements as they appear in the Graduate Bulletin. Students must read the "Doctoral Degree Requirements" section of the Graduate Bulletin; what follows pertains to School of Music practices and policies, and it amplifies Bulletin statements.*

Revised July 2009

# School of Music Doctoral Degrees

## D.M.A. The Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance and Pedagogy

Specific areas in which the D.M.A. may be earned are:

Bassoon	Conducting	Guitar	Oboe	Saxophone	Trumpet	Violin
Clarinet	Euphonium	Harpichord	Percussion	String Bass	Tuba	Violoncello
Composition	Flute	Horn	Piano	Trombone	Viola	Voice

## Ph.D. The Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education

## Admission Requirements

**Acceptance into the doctoral degree programs of the School of Music requires expectations beyond those in the Graduate Bulletin.** See "Acceptance into the School of Music," this booklet. Members of all under-represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

### Regular Admission

Students seeking regular admission to doctoral-level programs at The University of Southern Mississippi must:

- Have a graduate grade-point average of at least 3.5 (A = 4.0) on the previously-earned master's degree
- Submit test scores of the General Test of the Graduate Record Examinations
- Pass a candidacy audition (if required)
- Submit at least three strong letters of recommendation
- Pass a personal interview (if required)

### Conditional Admission

Students who are unable to meet regular admission standards may be considered for conditional admission. For details concerning conditional admission, see "Admission Requirements and Procedures," Graduate Bulletin, The University of Southern Mississippi. Please note: The Graduate Record Examination is required for both conditional and regular admission. Students who are admitted conditionally must pass a candidacy audition (if required) before completing 9 hours of coursework.

## Acceptance into the School of Music

Admission to graduate study does not imply acceptance into the School of Music for doctoral-level study. A maximum of nine (9) hours of graduate work earned before one has gained admission to the School of Music can be applied towards a degree.

To gain acceptance, one must:

- **Performance and Pedagogy:** possess a master's degree; **Music Education:** possess a master's degree in music education and have at least three years of successful teaching experience.
- Take Diagnostic Entrance Examinations the Friday before school begins. Note: One who does not gain an acceptable grade on the theory diagnostic examination must enroll and earn a "B" or better in MUS 620-Music Theory Survey or an appropriate undergraduate theory course as a prerequisite to further study in graduate music theory courses. One who does not gain an acceptable grade on the history diagnostic examination must enroll and earn a "B" or better in MUS 630 - Music History Survey. **Hours gained in these courses cannot be counted toward a doctoral degree.**
- Pass a Candidacy Audition (D.M.A. in Performance and Pedagogy, Applied areas only) **prior** to or during the first term of full-time residence or before completing nine (9) hours of course work.
- Pass a Candidacy Audition (D.M.A. in Performance and Pedagogy, Conducting Area only) **prior** to the first term of enrollment.
- Submit and gain approval for a portfolio of one's representative scores and/or recordings prior to the first term of enrollment (D.M.A. in Performance and Pedagogy, Composition area only).
- Pass all Entrance Examinations; D.M.A. Special Examinations (see specific areas in which the D.M.A. may be earned)
- Consult with the Coordinator of Graduate Studies, have a major professor and an Advisory Committee appointed, and begin planning the total degree program early in the first term of attendance or before nine (9) semester hours have been earned.
- Complete at least nine (9) hours of graduate course work relevant to one's degree plan with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5.
- By the end of the second semester, all doctoral students must: complete a degree plan, signed and approved by the Advisory Committee, and pass the Qualifying Examinations. Doctoral students should be counseled by their Advisory Committee before registering for courses and before taking the qualifying examinations.

## Examinations

For description of the tests included in the Doctoral Degree Entrance Examinations, Special Examinations, Diagnostic Examinations, Comprehensive Examinations, and Candidacy Auditions, contact The University of Southern Mississippi School of Music, 118 College Drive, Box 5081, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

## Diagnostic Examinations

All entering doctoral students are required to take a Diagnostic Entrance Examination consisting of three parts: music theory, music history, and expository writing. The purposes of this examination are (1) to determine if the student has foundation-level deficiencies that need to be addressed in order for him/her to be successful in doctoral level courses, on the qualifying examinations, and on the comprehensive examinations; and (2) to provide information that will guide the student and his/her advisor in selecting useful and appropriate academic courses.

Diagnostic Examinations are administered on campus **each Friday preceding the first day of classes** in fall, spring, and summer.

9:00 a.m.	New Graduate Student Orientation
9:30 a.m.	Theory Diagnostic Examination
10:30 a.m.	Music History Diagnostic Examination
11:30 a.m.	Doctoral Expository Writing Examination
1-5 p.m.	Advisement/Course Registration/Fee Payment

Those who do not pass the diagnostic examination in one or both of these areas must:

- Enroll in the appropriate course(s) (i.e., MUS 620: Graduate Theory Review and/or MUS 630: Graduate History Review) during the first semester of full-time study and earn a grade of “B” or better in that/those courses. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted for the spring semester only and will be considered on an individual basis. Students who are pursuing graduate study part-time must complete the appropriate review course(s) before completing 12 credit hours. Appropriate undergraduate theory courses may be additional prerequisites to further study in graduate music theory.
- Hours gained in these courses (MUS 620 and 630 and undergraduate courses) **cannot be counted** toward a doctoral degree. Both courses, MUS 620 and 630, must be passed during one’s first semester of matriculation. Part-time students must complete both courses before nine (9) semester hours are completed.
- Students who do not pass the expository writing section of the Diagnostic Examination may be advised to take an appropriate writing course in The English department and will be required to take MUS 500 (“Writing about Music”), even if it is not one of their degree requirements.
- Students with deficiencies may be required to take additional course work beyond the minimum required in the degree program.

In exceptional circumstances these examinations may also be administered through the mail. To make the testing process feasible, a proctor, preferably a teacher in a nearby college or university, may administer the examination. Submit the name and address of the proctor to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies.

## Qualifying Examinations: Doctoral Degrees

All doctoral students are required to complete a qualifying examination consisting of three written components (music theory, music history, and the student’s major area). This examination must be completed before the beginning of the second semester of full-time doctoral study. Part-time students must complete this examination at the end of the second semester of enrollment. The purpose of the qualifying examination is to determine if, after a semester of doctoral coursework (which may include review courses) and of independent study, the student is academically qualified to proceed with doctoral study. In order to be successful on the written portions of this examination, the student must be able to think critically and be able to synthesize material from a variety of sources. Sample examinations may be available to students in some areas. Doctoral students should consult their major professor and the coordinator of graduate studies regarding examination policies beyond those listed in the *Bulletin*.

The emphasis area portion of the qualifying examination (e.g., music education, conducting, music performance, etc.) will be graded initially by those members of the student’s committee representing the emphasis area. The music theory and history portions will be graded initially by theory and history faculty, respectively. A student will be awarded a pass if at least four of the five members of the committee vote accordingly.

A student who fails any part of the qualifying examination may, with the permission of his or her committee, repeat it. However, any coursework (in the area of the exam which the student failed) enrolled in after that initial failure and before the qualifying examination is passed in its entirety will be considered to be remedial and will not count as doctoral coursework.

For example, if a student should fail all sections of the qualifying examination in January, the courses taken during the fall semester *will* count toward the degree. However, courses taken during the following spring semester would not, *even if the student passes the qualifying examination in May*. As well, if a student should fail one portion (e.g., theory) of the qualifying examination in January, the courses taken in said area during the fall will count toward the degree. However, courses in said area taken during the following spring semester would not, even if the student passes the qualifying examination in that area in May. After an initial failure (in whole or part), if permission for a retake is granted, the qualifying examination must be retaken at the end of the next regular semester of full-time enrollment, but not later than two semesters after the failure (including the summer semester).

If a student fails any part of the qualifying examination and is not given permission by the advisory committee to retake the failed sections, then the student may not continue as a degree candidate.

**How are the exams graded?** Each part of the examination is graded by the appropriate faculty, and the results are reported to the Graduate Coordinator. Results of the individual parts of the Qualifying Examination will be reported to the Graduate Coordinator in one of three ways:

- Student shows no deficiencies.
- Student shows deficiencies, which are noted along with appropriate means to remove these deficiencies.
- Qualifying Examination is judged **unacceptable** for one or both of the following reasons:
  - Student has inadequate knowledge of the subject.
  - Student cannot write and/or spell adequately.

**What happens if there are deficiencies on the Qualifying Exam?**

- Those who grade the examinations will make recommendations regarding the courses to be taken by the doctoral candidate.
- Students with deficiencies may be required to take additional course work beyond the minimum required in the degree program.
- Students with deficiencies may be required to take undergraduate courses for which **no credit** toward the doctorate will be gained.
- Doctoral students should consult their major professor and the Coordinator of Graduate Studies regarding Qualifying Examination policies beyond those listed in the Bulletin.

**When a student performs unacceptably on one part of the Qualifying Examination:**

- The student's major professor and committee must meet with the appropriate faculty to determine whether the student may continue in the program.
- If the student is allowed to continue, the recommendations of the area faculty regarding course work must be discussed and determined by the student's Advisory Committee and appropriate area faculty.
- The recommendations regarding remedial coursework (if there are any) is given to the graduate coordinator and communicated to the student.

**When the student performs unacceptably on two parts of the Qualifying Examination:**

- The student's major professor and committee must meet with the appropriate faculty to determine whether the student may continue in the program.
- He/she may not register for any more hours of course work leading to a doctoral degree.
- If the student is allowed to continue, the recommendations of the area faculty regarding course work must be discussed and determined by the student's Advisory Committee and appropriate area faculty.
- The recommendations regarding remedial coursework is given to the graduate coordinator and communicated to the student.
- The student must take the recommended courses and re-take the failed portion of the examination within the time limits mentioned above.
- If the exam sections are judged unacceptable on the second attempt, the student cannot continue in the doctoral program in music.

Deviations from the above **qualifying examination** policy must be approved, in writing, after a meeting by both the Advisory Committee and the appropriate faculty graders. Students are notified of the results, in writing, before the end of the semester.

## Comprehensive Examinations

At the completion of all course work and examinations, the doctoral student is required to take a written Comprehensive Examination in the student's area of specialization, music theory, and music history. Doctoral students should consult their major professor and the Coordinator of Graduate Studies regarding Comprehensive Examination policies beyond those listed in the Bulletin.

**Dates:**            **Spring**            The week before classes begin in January.

<b>Summer</b>	The week before classes begin in May.
<b>Fall</b>	The week before classes begin in August.

The exact dates of the examinations are determined by the Coordinator of Graduate Studies and are publicized as soon as the University's Academic Calendar is available. **Students must register for the exam two months (minimum) prior to taking the exam by calling 601-266-6458 or by completing the *Exam RSVP form*.**

**How is the test prepared and graded?** The examination in the student's area of specialization will be prepared and graded by the student's committee members from that area. The examinations in music theory and history will be prepared and graded by the appropriate area faculty. The candidate's committee members representing music history and theory will deliver the recommendation of each of those areas to the full committee. The full committee will meet to discuss the examination and recommend a grade of "pass" or "fail" for each area (specialization, music theory, music history). This meeting will be held during the first three weeks of the following semester.

**Results:** The Graduate Adviser must receive the results of the Comprehensive Examination in time to notify the University Registrar and the Graduate Office (i.e., no later than the last day for presenting signed dissertations to the Graduate Office).

**What happens if the comprehensive exam is unsatisfactory?** When it is determined that the Comprehensive Examination is unsatisfactory, in whole or in part:

- The student will be granted a second examination.
- The test must be repeated within one year of the first Comprehensive Examination, but the student will be required to repeat only those sections of the examination judged unsatisfactory.
- In those instances where a second examination is expected, the appropriate area faculty will inform the student, in writing, as to the specific or general areas which will be tested. The appropriate area faculty will grade the second test.

**What happens with the second exam?** The Comprehensive Examination can be retaken once.

- All parts failed must be repeated simultaneously.
- If the second examination is judged unsatisfactory by the Advisory Committee, in whole or in part, the student cannot earn a doctoral degree in Music or Music Education at The University of Southern Mississippi.

## **Jury Requirements/Final Examinations: Doctoral Degrees**

Students who are enrolled in MUP private lessons in their principal applied area and who are seeking the doctor of musical arts degree with emphasis in performance must perform a jury for the appropriate applied faculty. All other doctoral students enrolled in MUP private lessons must perform a final examination for the applied teacher. At the finish of each semester and summer term, the applied teacher must complete a Final Jury/Examination Form for each student and file it with the graduate coordinator. Students enrolled in applied music who do not take a final examination or perform for a jury will receive the grade "I" or "F." All grades of "I" must be completed by the end of the next semester (excluding summer term). See Grading System in this *Bulletin*.

The applied teacher must record and submit any exception to this policy to the coordinator of graduate studies; signatures of all appropriate area faculty must be included on this form.

## **Advisory Committee**

Early in the first term of full-time residence or before nine (9) hours of graduate credit have been earned, the student and the major professor select those faculty who will serve as the student's Advisory Committee. Doctoral committees must include five members: 1) the major professor, 2) another professor from the major area, 3) another professor from the major area (or a substitute approved by the School of Music Director), 4) a representative from Music Theory, 5) a representative from Music History. Changes to this formula must be pre-approved in writing by the School of Music Director. **The Advisory Committee must be appointed before taking the Qualifying Examination.**

# Degree Plan

The graduate coordinator and the student in consultation with the major professor shall develop a planning sheet of course work based upon Qualifying Examination information and course requirements. In those cases where a student is required to take additional course work beyond the minimum required by the degree, the Advisory Committee will counsel the student and plan the program of studies.

# Dissertation

## Defense of the Dissertation Prospectus

A formal defense or gathering of the committee is required for approval of the dissertation prospectus. At the defense, the student responds to questions about the prospectus, which must be distributed to committee members at least two weeks in advance. After the defense, the student must present an updated prospectus and *Approval of Dissertation Prospectus* form to the individual committee members. The completed form and revised prospectus is then given to the Graduate Coordinator for processing.

## Dissertation Requirements

1. The dissertation topic must be approved by the student's major professor and Advisory Committee and must be an original and significant contribution to knowledge in the chosen field. The Human Subjects Protection Review Committee must also approve the topic.
2. The DMA dissertation consists of two parts: Part I is a written thesis giving evidence of the candidate's ability to make a scholarly investigation of limited scope and Part II is a copy of all recital programs, concert programs, and program notes presented during the student's residency. DMA students in performance and pedagogy (all areas except conducting and composition) may choose an alternate to the traditional dissertation requirement. This Track II option is only available with the consent of the major professor and the approval of the advisory committee. See the graduate coordinator for further information on this alternative.
3. **A student may not enroll in more than three (3) hours of MUS 898 or MED 898 before his or her prospectus has been approved by their Advisory Committee. Once a topic has been approved, the student must enroll in MUS 797, MED 797, MUS 898, or MED 898 in each semester/term until the degree is completed.**
4. A separate bulletin outlining University requirements concerning the preparation of dissertations is available in the Graduate Office, McCain Library room 205, (601) 266-4369.
5. Additionally, instructions specific to the development of an approved topic in Music or Music Education must be followed. See required pamphlet, "Prospectus Guide for the Doctor of Music Arts Degree," available from the School of Music.

## Oral Defense of the Dissertation

After the dissertation has been accepted and after all required course work has been completed, but at least four weeks before the candidate is scheduled to receive the degree, a final oral examination on the dissertation and related fields will be conducted by the student's advisory committee and any other faculty members designated by the Director of the School of Music. The examination will be open to any member of the graduate faculty.

**Scheduling the Dissertation Defense:** Committee members must be allowed plenty of time to read a dissertation. The defense may be scheduled only after all members have seen a late draft of the dissertation, and have agreed that there is a good chance of defending successfully after responding to the suggestions for revision. The student then revises the draft to the satisfaction of the chair. This draft with revisions must be in the hands of all committee members at least three weeks before the defense date. Defenses must take place during fall and spring semesters except in rare instances.

# Application for Degree

The **doctoral student** must complete the following steps one semester prior to the semester of graduation. For specific deadlines see [www.usm.edu/graduatestudies](http://www.usm.edu/graduatestudies).

- Obtain a copy of the Application for Degree Cover Sheet at [www.usm.edu/graduatestudies](http://www.usm.edu/graduatestudies) under "Application to Graduate" materials.
- Login to SOAR and download the GRD11 (Advising Transcript) at [www.usm.edu/soar](http://www.usm.edu/soar). The path is SA Self Service, Learner Services, Academics, Click on View Degree Progress Report, Print the Degree Progress Report.
- Complete the Cover Sheet and take it to the Graduate Coordinator for signatures.

- Pay fees at Business Office, and then take the document to the graduate degree auditors in the Graduate Studies office, located in McCain, room 205.

**When completed, the student's file in the Graduate Office should contain, in addition to the documents described above:**

- Graduate Committee Request Form
- Plan of Study
- Results of Qualifying Exams Form
- Results of Comprehensive Exams Form
- Dissertation Prospectus Approval/Admitted for Candidacy Form
- Results of Oral Defense of Dissertation Form
- Statements of proficiency in language and/or statistics.

## Policies

### Recital Requirements

Before scheduling a recital, the student must ascertain that all members of the Advisory Committee can attend. At least fourteen days before the recital, the student must issue a written or emailed invitation to each member of his or her committee. If recitals are required by the student's degree plan, the Advisory Committee will:

- Approve the repertoire **in writing** (students must fill out a *Recital Repertoire Approval Form* and return it to the Graduate Coordinator no later than one week prior to the recital date), attend the recital, and grade the performance as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U).
- This grade, indicating the majority opinion of the Advisory Committee, must be recorded on the Graduate Examination Report and submitted to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies.
- Should a recital be judged Unsatisfactory, another recital, at a date determined by the Advisory Committee, must take place.
- Should a recital be canceled or postponed until a succeeding semester, the recital will be graded "E" (course in progress). The grade "I" (Incomplete) can be awarded, but only with permission of the School of Music Graduate Committee.
- A student who receives two grades of Unsatisfactory in meeting degree recital requirements will not be allowed to continue as a candidate.
- Doctoral recitals shall not be scheduled to occur during the week of final examinations.
- If all committee members cannot attend a degree recital, the performance must be recorded for distribution to the absent committee members.

### Jury Requirements/Final Examinations

Students who are enrolled in MUP (Music Performance) Private Lessons in their **principal applied area** and who are seeking the Doctor of Musical Arts degree with emphasis in performance **must perform a jury** for the appropriate applied faculty. **All other doctoral students** enrolled in MUP Private Lessons **must perform a final examination** for the applied teacher. At the finish of each semester, the applied teacher must complete a "Final Jury/Examination Form" for each student and file it with the Graduate Coordinator. Students enrolled in applied music who do not take a final examination or a jury will receive the grade "I" or "F." All grades of "I" must be completed by the end of the next semester (excluding summer term) or they will automatically be changed to an "F." The applied teacher must record and submit any exception to this policy to the Graduate Coordinator; signatures of all appropriate area faculty must be included on this form.

### Continuous Enrollment

Doctoral students are expected to enroll continuously after they have taken required coursework until they complete their degree using the guidelines listed below.

- Students must register for one (1) hour of independent study and research (797) or thesis (898) in the Fall and either Spring or Summer semester if they:
  - Have incomplete grades (Is) in one or more courses
  - Have completed all coursework but must take comprehensive exams
  - Have not been admitted to candidacy
  - Have not completed their dissertation
- Students must enroll for one (1) hour in the Summer semester if they are using university services, e.g., library and/or technology services.
- Students must register for three (3) hours of 898 during the semester they expect to defend and complete the dissertation. All

required coursework must be completed before the semester in which the student defends the dissertation. The dissertation must be deposited in the Office of Graduate Studies.

- Students must register for one (1) hour of 797 or 898 the next semester if they have not deposited the dissertation in the Office of Graduate Studies.

Failure to enroll for the appropriate hours will result in the student being discontinued from USM and require that the student reapply for admission to the program.

## **Ensemble Participation**

All full-time doctoral students majoring in music are required to participate in a major ensemble during their first four terms of residence. A maximum of two (2) hours graduate credit earned from ensemble work may be counted toward a degree. The ensemble in which one participates will be determined by the student's major applied area and area of interest. The following are considered to be appropriate major ensembles to fulfill this requirement: Orchestra, Band, Southern Chorale, Jazz Lab Band, Hattiesburg Choral Union, University Singers, and Opera/Music Theatre. Exceptions may be granted to doctoral students in residence during summer semesters.

For doctoral students whose major instrument is piano, the following would constitute ensemble participation: performing as a pianist with the Orchestra, Band, Southern Chorale, Jazz Lab Band, Hattiesburg Choral Union, University Singers, Opera/Music Theatre, Chamber Music, Collegium Musicum, or other appropriate major ensemble. Studio accompanying may fulfill the ensemble requirement if approved by the piano faculty. (These students should register for their own studio teacher's section of MUS 792, Special Problems.)

For doctoral students whose major instrument is guitar, their ensemble requirement is four (4) semesters of MUP 671, Chamber Music.

Doctoral exception: on rare occasions a doctoral student may be excused from ensemble participation for one semester of residence if there is a bona fide academic reason for such. This ensemble participation waiver must be requested in writing and approved by the student's advisory committee.

## **Special Problems Courses (MUS 692, 792, MED 692, 792)**

Students cannot enroll in special problems courses without appropriate approval. Petitions requesting permission to enroll are available from the graduate coordinator. Petitions must be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator by the end of SOAR open registration. Special Problems courses demand a minimum of 45 hours work for each hour of credit earned. It is expected that the result of any problem undertaken be available for faculty examination; copies of term papers, examinations, or compositions must be turned in to the Music Office for scrutiny by interested faculty.

# D.M.A. Degree Plan: Performance and Pedagogy

(All areas except Conducting and Composition)

## Candidacy Audition

All students must audition for the appropriate area faculty (generally, taped auditions are not acceptable.) This audition must be deemed Satisfactory before one can be accepted into the School of Music (i.e., before completing nine (9) hours of graduate work). Early auditions are encouraged, and a high level of performance proficiency is expected. In lieu of a candidacy audition, with the approval of the School of Music Graduate Committee, students who will complete the Master of Music degree in Performance at USM may use their graduate recital. The appropriate faculty must attend the recital, and the printed program must state the total purpose of the concert, e.g., "This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Music in Performance, and it also serves as an audition for acceptance into the Doctor of Musical Arts curriculum in the School of Music." The student must begin doctoral study within one year of this audition.

**Brass Performance:** For those majoring in brass performance, the candidacy audition must be a full recital for the brass faculty.

**Percussion Performance:** For those majoring in percussion performance, the applicant should demonstrate proficiency on timpani, on mallet keyboards, and should perform a multiple- percussion piece.

**Piano Performance:** For those majoring in piano performance, the audition must be a full recital, memorized, performed before the piano faculty; it must include works from at least three different periods in music (e.g., Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, or Contemporary). The faculty may select portions from the repertoire submitted.

**String Performance:** For those majoring in string performance, the candidacy audition must be at least thirty minutes in length and must include three works of contrasting style, preferably representing three different periods in music.

**Voice Performance:** Voice performance applicants must demonstrate, by audition, advanced vocal technique; good diction in Italian, French, German, and English; and good vocal quality and musicianship. The repertoire must be memorized and include a total of eight contrasting selections—two selections each in Italian, French, German, and English—and must include one but no more than two arias from an opera or oratorio; a seventeenth- or eighteenth-century Italian song or aria; a German Lied; a French Melodie; and a song in English. A minimum of four pieces will be heard at your audition.

**Woodwind Performance:** For those majoring in woodwind performance, the candidacy audition must be at least thirty minutes in length and must include three works of contrasting style, preferably representing three different periods in music.

## All D.M.A. Areas Except Conducting and Composition

The DMA student will be required to take MUS 500, 702, 731, 732, and 898. The remainder of the coursework will be determined in light of the student's qualifying examination, entrance audition, his or her interests or professional goals, and the counsel of the major professor and graduate advisory committee. In planning this program, the following minimum distribution of graduate courses (including master's degree work) is required: thirty (30) semester hours in performance, music studio study and recitals, nine (9) semester hours in music history (survey courses and/or MUS 571), three (3) semester hours in music literature (MUS 531 and/or courses with the word "literature" in the title), nine (9) semester hours in music theory, and the remainder of the program in approved electives which may include six (6) semester hours in a cognate field of study. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation. Graduate students must receive a grade of B or better in any class in order for it to count toward the graduation requirements. Three recitals will be required in addition to the entrance audition. One must be a solo recital, one a lecture recital, and the third chosen from the following options: (a) performance of a concerto with orchestra, (b) performance of a major role in an opera, (c) performance of a major role in an oratorio, (d) a full-length recital of chamber music, or (e) a second solo recital. (Note: To use options "a" through "d," permission of the student's advisory committee must be received before the semester in which the event will occur.) As a general rule, not more than one doctoral recital may be presented by a candidate during any academic term, nor more than two during any nine-month period. Rare exceptions will be permitted, but under rigidly controlled procedures. See the graduate coordinator for details. Students must inform all committee members of the dates for degree performances well in advance and must return a signed copy of the Recital Repertoire form to the graduate coordinator at least one week before the performance.

**Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate Studies Office by the end of the **second semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduatestudies](http://www.usm.edu/graduatestudies) - click on "Current Students" and then the "Plans of Study" link.

## Research Tools

One language (French, German, or Italian) will be required in the degree. (For specifics, see General Degree Requirements, Foreign Language, in this *Bulletin*.) Others may be required by the major professor and graduate advisory committee.

The D.M.A. dissertation, required for completion of the degree, consists of two parts. Part I must be a written thesis giving evidence of the candidate's ability to make a scholarly investigation of limited scope. Part II must include all recital programs, concert programs, and program notes presented during the student's residency. D.M.A. students, performance and pedagogy (all areas except Conducting and Composition) may choose an alternative to the traditional dissertation requirement. This "Track 2" option is only available with the major professor's and advisory committee's approval. See the graduate coordinator for further information.

## Recitals

Three recitals will be required in addition to the candidacy audition. One must be a solo recital, one a lecture recital, and the third chosen from the following options:

- (a) Performance of a concerto with orchestra
- (b) Performance of a major role in an opera
- (c) Performance of a major role in an oratorio
- (d) A full-length recital of chamber music
- (e) A second solo recital.

To use options "a" through "d," permission of the student's Advisory Committee must be received **one semester prior to** the semester in which the event will occur. As a general rule, not more than one doctoral recital may be presented by a candidate during any academic term, or more than two during any nine-month period. Rare exceptions will be permitted, but under rigidly controlled procedures. See the Graduate Coordinator for details.

Students must inform all committee members of the dates for degree performances well in advance and must return a signed copy of the *Recital Repertoire Approval Form* to the Graduate Coordinator no later than one week prior to the recital date.

## Language Requirement

One year of French, Italian or German courses (six graduate semester hours or nine undergraduate semester hours) will be required in the degree and must be approved by the Advisory Committee. Graduate hours can be earned with FRE 501, FRE 502, GER 501, or GER 502. Undergraduate hours can be earned with FRE 101, 102, 201, 202 or GER 101, 102, 201, 202. Others may be required by the major professor and the Graduate Advisory Committee. Students may transfer these hours from an accredited institution upon admission, provided that the most advanced of the courses was taken within the last six calendar years.

## Special Requirement for Voice Performance

The student's transcript(s) must show grades of C or better in at least one course in diction for singers and in two years of foreign language: German, French, or Italian (may include any combination of those languages). Students lacking these will be required to pass such courses in addition to the requirements for the degree. In lieu of course work, satisfactory performance on language exams, administered by the USM Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, is acceptable. Also, the student's transcript must show a solo recital at the Master's level. Students lacking this requirement are expected to complete an additional solo recital to complete the degree.

## Dissertation

The D.M.A. dissertation is required for completion of the degree. See major professor and Graduate Bulletin policies for detailed instructions. A second dissertation option is available with Advisory Committee approval. Students must seek details from the major professor and must receive permission, in writing from the entire advisory committee, for this option.

*Note: Although the Graduate Bulletin states that eighty-four (84) semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree are required for doctoral degrees, it should be clearly understood that some candidates will be unable to receive a degree on the basis of this minimum. The distinction implied by the degree and the traditions related to it require comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of a high degree of proficiency in the major field and related areas of study as well as the ability to conduct advanced research.*

# D.M.A. Conducting Degree Plan

Acceptance of a prospective student into the D.M.A. program in the conducting area requires a previously earned master's degree in music or music education. The conducting faculty must be satisfied that the student is qualified to pursue the DMA at The University of Southern Mississippi. Satisfactory competence in English and German, French or Italian is required for candidacy.

Students applying for entrance into the D.M.A. program in the conducting area must:

- Provide an application that includes a current resume, a repertoire list, specifying works conducted in performance, three letters of recommendation which center on the applicant's conducting abilities, a videotape of a rehearsal conducted by the applicant, and a video or audiotape of a performance conducted by the applicant.
- Complete an interview and an audition. After review of the application by the conducting faculty, the applicant may be invited to an interview-audition on campus. It will include a session with the conducting faculty to assess one's musical proficiencies and a rehearsal of an appropriate university ensemble to assess one's rehearsal technique.

In the interview, the applicant will demonstrate the following:

- Musicality, preferably by showing proficiency as a performer on a standard orchestral or band instrument, on a standard keyboard instrument, or as a singer.
- Keyboard proficiency above the basic level in technique, musicianship, and open score reading;
- A high degree of competence in ear training and sight-singing;
- Thorough knowledge of the traditional orchestral and band instruments and their transpositions;
- Acquaintance with a broad range of appropriate repertoire from various periods;
- Detailed knowledge of works from the applicant's repertoire list.

The audition, a rehearsal, will use repertoire selected in consultation with the appropriate faculty, and will last for approximately thirty minutes. The applicant's competence in effective gesture and verbal communication will be assessed. For applicants admitted to the program with deficiencies in any of the above, no degree credit will be granted for any required remedial work.

The D.M.A. student will be required to take either MUS 500 or MED 825. Also required are MUS 702, 731, 732, and 898; MED 731, 732, 733; MUP 896 and 897. The remainder of the coursework will be determined in light of the student's qualifying examination, entrance interview-audition, interests or professional goals, and the counsel of the major professor and graduate advisory committee. In planning this program, the following minimum distribution of graduate courses (including master's degree work) is required: thirty (30) semester hours in performance, conducting, and recitals, nine (9) semester hours in music history (survey courses and/or MUS 571), three (3) semester hours in music literature (MUS 531 and/or courses with the word "literature" in the title), nine (9) semester hours in music theory, and six (6) hours of approved electives which may include a cognate field of study (a course in foundations of music education is recommended). A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation. Graduate students must receive a grade of B or better in any class in order for it to count toward the graduation requirements.

## Language Requirement

One year of French, Italian or German courses (six graduate semester hours or nine undergraduate semester hours) will be required in the degree and must be approved by the Advisory Committee. Graduate hours can be earned with FRE 501, FRE 502, GER 501, or GER 502. Undergraduate hours can be earned with FRE 101, 102, 201, 202 or GER 101, 102, 201, 202. Others may be required by the major professor and the Graduate Advisory Committee. Students may transfer these hours from an accredited institution upon admission, provided that the most advanced of the courses was taken within the last six calendar years.

## Recitals

Two concerts and a lecture recital will be required. Repertoire for these concerts must be approved in advance by the student's Advisory Committee. When practical, the repertoire will include works for both vocal and instrumental components. As a general rule, not more than one doctoral concert/recital may be presented by a candidate during any semester, or more than two during any nine-month period. Rare exceptions will be permitted, but only under rigidly controlled procedures. See your advisory committee for details. When all members of a committee cannot attend a conducting degree recital, the concert will be videotaped. Committee members unable to attend will view the tape and evaluate the degree recital.

## Dissertation

The D.M.A. dissertation, required for completion of the degree, consists of two parts. Part I must be a written thesis that is an original

and significant contribution to the knowledge of the field; it must give evidence of the candidate's ability to make a scholarly investigation of limited scope. Part II must include all recital programs, concert programs, and program notes presented during the student's residency.

*Note: Although the Graduate Bulletin states that eighty-four (84) semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree are required for doctoral degrees, it should be clearly understood that some candidates will be unable to receive a degree on the basis of this minimum. The distinction implied by the degree and the traditions related to it require comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of a high degree of proficiency in the major field and related areas of study as well as the ability to conduct advanced research.*

# D.M.A. Composition Degree Plan

Acceptance of a prospective student into the D.M.A. program in the composition area assumes a previously earned master's degree in composition or the equivalent, provided the composition faculty is satisfied that the student is qualified to pursue the D.M.A. at The University of Southern Mississippi. A high level of proficiency in composition and extensive knowledge of literature are expected. Students applying for entrance into the D.M.A. program in the composition area must submit a portfolio containing representative scores and/or recordings of their compositions prior to the first term of enrollment at The University of Southern Mississippi.

The D.M.A. student will be required to take either MUS 500 or MED 825. Also required are MUS 702, 731, 732, and 898; MED 731, 732, 733; MUP 896 and 897. The remainder of the coursework will be determined in light of the student's qualifying examination, entrance interview-audition, interests or professional goals, and the counsel of the major professor and graduate advisory committee. In planning this program, the following minimum distribution of graduate courses (including master's degree work) is required: thirty (30) semester hours in performance, conducting, and recitals, nine (9) semester hours in music history (survey courses and/or MUS 571), three (3) semester hours in music literature (MUS 531 and/or courses with the word "literature" in the title), nine (9) semester hours in music theory, and six (6) hours of approved electives which may include a cognate field of study (a course in foundations of music education is recommended). A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation. Graduate students must receive a grade of B or better in any class in order for it to count toward the graduation requirements.

## Compositions

The student will write compositions totaling at least two (2) hours performing time. Up to thirty-minutes previously written compositions may be accepted as part of these two hours. Compositions will be for orchestra, band, chorus, ensembles, and soloists demonstrating competence in writing for all orchestral and band instruments as well as for the solo voice. The music should encompass levels of difficulty from junior high school to professional standards. The composer will write commentaries for each work, including program notes and rehearsal suggestions. All works, including parts, must be in duplicative format. One recital of the composer's works will be given, with the composer commenting on each composition.

## Language Requirement

One year of French, Italian or German courses (six graduate semester hours or nine undergraduate semester hours) will be required in the degree and must be approved by the Advisory Committee. Graduate hours can be earned with FRE 501, FRE 502, GER 501, or GER 502. Undergraduate hours can be earned with FRE 101, 102, 201, 202 or GER 101, 102, 201, 202. Others may be required by the major professor and the Graduate Advisory Committee. Students may transfer these hours from an accredited institution upon admission, provided that the most advanced of the courses was taken within the last six calendar years.

## Dissertation

The D.M.A. dissertation, required for completion of the degree, will consist of commentaries, program notes, and a full score of a work composed during the student's doctoral study.

*Note: Although the Graduate Bulletin states that eighty-four (84) semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree are required for doctoral degrees, it should be clearly understood that some candidates will be unable to receive a degree on the basis of this minimum. The distinction implied by the degree and the traditions related to it require comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of a high degree of proficiency in the major field and related areas of study as well as the ability to conduct advanced research.*

# Ph.D. in Music Education Degree Plan

Acceptance into the doctoral degree programs of the School of Music requires that students meet expectations beyond those stipulated in the Graduate Bulletin; see Acceptance into the School of Music on page 2 of this handbook.

## Required Courses

Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Name
3	REF 601 (or equivalent)	Educational Research
3	MUS 702 (or equivalent)	Bibliography for Music Research
3	MED 755	Psychology of Music
3	MED 825	Doctoral Seminar in Music Education
3	MED 826	Doctoral Seminar in Music Education
12	MED 898	Dissertation

The remainder of the program will be electives determined in the light of the student's qualifying examination, his or her interests, and counsel of the major professor and graduate advisory committee. In planning this program, the following additional minimum distribution of graduate courses (including master's degree work) is required:

Credit Hours	Course Prefix	Course Name
30	MED	Music Education
9	MUS	Music history and literature
9	MUS	Music theory
9	REF	Professional education.
3 semesters	MUP	Studio performance study.

At least 18 hours of coursework must be at the 600 level or higher. A 3.0 G.P.A. is required for graduation. Graduate students must receive a grade of B or better in any course in order for it to count toward the graduation requirements.

## Research Tools

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Music Education must comply with the language requirements as specified for Doctor of Philosophy candidates in the Graduate Bulletin. The School of Music recommends one language approved by the students' Advisory Committee and completion of REF 602, 761, and 762 to fulfill the statistics requirement.

*Note: Although the Graduate Bulletin states that eighty-four (84) semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree are required for doctoral degrees, it should be clearly understood that some candidates will be unable to receive a degree on the basis of this minimum. The distinction implied by the degree and the traditions related to it require comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of a high degree of proficiency in the major field and related areas of study as well as the ability to conduct advanced research.*