

Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition

Composition Requirements – 30 semester hours

- MUSI 601 *Advanced & Grad Composition for Majors* – 8 semesters, at least six (6) taken as a DMA student
- MUSI 603 *Graduate Composition Seminar* – 6 semesters
- MUSI 605 *Advanced Electronic and Computer Music*
- MUSI 606 *Advanced Computer Sound Synthesis*
- MUSI 751 *Recitals of original compositions* – (2)

Performance* – 8 semester hours

DMA Core Requirements – 15 semester hours

- MUSI 611 *Classroom Pedagogy*
- MUSI 711 *Analytic Techniques*
- MUSI 738 *Doctoral Seminar I: Career Skills*
- MUSI 735 *Doctoral Seminar II: Repertory*
- MUSI 738 *Individual Project*

Academic Coursework (*in addition to core*) – 30 semester hours

- Music History – 18 semester hours
- Music Theory – 12 semester hours

Electives** - 11 semester hours

Classroom Teaching

Examinations

- Piano proficiency
- Aural skills proficiency
- Graduate Composition Seminar
- Written and oral qualifying examinations
- Reading competency in French, German or Italian

Doctoral Dissertation – 6 semester hours

- MUSI 800 *Doctoral Dissertation* – 2 semesters

Students are required to submit an original composition of substantial dimensions.

Diagnostic examinations in music history and music theory are given prior to admission to The Shepherd School, and play an important role in the admissions decision. Weaknesses in these areas will be addressed by courses designated by the chairs of the respective departments. These will count within either the Academic Coursework or Elective category. All doctoral students must also pass proficiency exams in aural skills and piano. These exams are scheduled at the beginning of each academic year. If required, MUSI 432 *Graduate Aural Skills Review* and/or MUSI 281 *Secondary Piano* must be taken, but neither will count towards the total number of hours required for the degree.

* Performance hours may be satisfied by any combination of private instrumental or vocal study, classes in conducting or score reading, or performance in ensembles or chamber music. Piano lessons are strongly recommended.

** Electives must be 300 level or above. Graduate academic courses taken elsewhere may be transferred with the approval of the relevant Department Chair. Additional hours of required coursework may not count toward the elective requirement. However, up to three (3) semester hours of MUSI 649 *Graduate Independent Study* will count towards degree requirements.

This degree plan was updated May 2016 and is intended for the 2016 – 17 academic year. If reviewed after May 2017, please confirm accuracy with The Shepherd School of Music and Rice University's General Announcements, <http://ga.rice.edu>.