Performance Requirements – 29 semester hours
- MUSI 683 Advanced Organ for Majors – 8 semesters, at least six (6) taken as a DMA student
- MUSI 736 Solo Repertory for Doctoral Students – 1 semester (beyond core)
- MUSI 285 Secondary Harpsichord – 1 semester
- MUSI 751 Doctoral Recital (4 beyond master’s)
  - Two (2) solo
  - One (1) lecture
  - One (1) chamber

Department Specific Coursework – 7 semester hours
- MUSI 725 Organ Literature Seminar
- MUSI 608 Improvisation at the Organ – 2 semesters

DMA Core Requirements – 24 semester hours
- MUSI 611 Classroom Pedagogy
- MUSI 711 Analytical Approaches
- MUSI 733 Doctoral Seminar I: Career Skills
- MUSI 735 Doctoral Seminar II: Repertory
- MUSI 736 Solo Repertory for Doctoral Students
- MUSI 737 Doctoral Seminar III: Music History Proseminar
- MUSI 738 Doctoral Individual Project
- MUSI 739 Pedagogy for Doctoral Students

Academic Coursework (in addition to core) – 15 semester hours
- Music History – 9 semester hours
- Music Theory – 6 semester hours

Electives* – 11 semester hours Classroom Teaching

Doctoral document – 6 semester hours
- MUSI 750 Doctoral Document – 2 semesters (The document must be publically defended.)

Examinations
- Aural skills proficiency
- Written and oral qualifying examinations, comprehensive exam

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.

*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 performance 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 June 2021 and is intended for the 2021-22 academic year.