

Music Composition Program Goals

Creativity, the development of personal expression through music, and the assessment of music's role in the 21st-century societal context are the focal points for composition majors.

I. Goals: Bachelor of Music in Composition

Students who successfully complete the Bachelor of Music in Composition program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate creativity
- B. Develop personal expression through music
- C. Understand music's role in the 21st century societal context

II. Goals: Master of Music in Composition

The Master of Music in Composition is a regimen of professional training spanning the gamut of traditional academic studies such as counterpoint to experimental studies in subjects such as software synthesis. The Master's program encourages the composer of demonstrated accomplishment to develop a personal voice through private study with at least two members of the composition faculty.

Students who successfully complete the Master of Music in Composition program will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate competency in Harmony, Counterpoint, Aural Skills, and Music History prior to the first semester of graduate study
- B. Demonstrate functional piano proficiency in score reading, playing the exposition of the first movement of a symphony by Haydn or Mozart, sight-reading a Bach chorale, realizing a figured bass.
- C. Pass a written qualifying exam at the end of 30 hours of study.
- D. Submit a portfolio of composition work completed during the program of study and pass a 5-hour written comprehensive exam.

III. Goals: Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition (DMA)

Students who successfully complete the Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition program will be able to:

- A. Successfully complete a translation examination, specified by the department of composition in one foreign language: either French, German, Italian, or other national language with department permission. The examination must be completed before the preliminary examination may be taken.
- B. Pass a written entrance exams covering music history, harmony, counterpoint, form and analysis, composition and writing prior to or during the first semester of doctoral study.
- C. Pass a performance examination, jury, or adjudicated recital during each semester of study.
- D. Pass a written preliminary exam that will confirm that the student has attained broad competency in the field of music and that within his/her area of concentration s/he can deal with specific questions in depth.
- E. Present a public recital of the candidate's chamber music prior to the preliminary examination, or submit evidence of 5 professional performances of compositions during doctoral study.
- F. Prepare a proposal for the DMA in Composition Monograph. The monograph encompasses an original composition of dimension approved by the adviser for full or chamber orchestra with or without soloists, or for voices and orchestra, or other approved media.