

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY - COMPOSITION

The PhD curriculum in composition is designed to prepare students to compose professionally and/or to teach composition at the college-university level. A Master's degree in composition, or equivalent, is required to enter the program. The degree requires 48 hours of acceptable credit beyond a 30-hour master's degree in music.

Curriculum:

Required Courses:

MUS 7800 Intro to Research	3
MUS 7051 Composition	6
MUS 7703 20th C. Musical Practices	3
MUS 7745 Computer Music	3
any two 7000-level music history courses	3,3
MUS 7700 Survey of Analytical Techniques	3
any one additional 7000-level music theory course	3
<u>Minor Area:</u>	12 (normally)
<u>Final Research Project</u> (MUS 9000) Dissertation	9
<u>Electives:</u>	as advised

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet all rules and regulations of the LSU Graduate School (see current catalog). An appropriate Master's degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 (out of 4.00) on all graduate and undergraduate work is required for non-probational admission. An acceptable score [combined verbal/quantitative] on the GRE is also required. Applicants must submit a letter of intent, an application for admission, and official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work. In addition, applicants to this program must submit a list of compositions, scores in a variety of media, and tapes if available.

DIAGNOSTIC EXAMINATIONS

All incoming graduate students (including those holding an LSU undergraduate degree) are required to take Diagnostic Examinations in Music History and Music Theory. Students who graduate with an LSU Master's in Music, and re-enroll in the doctorate within four years, are exempt from these examinations. Students who do not pass the music theory examination will be required to complete MUS 3703 and/or 3704. Students who do not pass the music history examination will be required to complete MUS 3710. Students may not enroll in any 7000-level course in music history or theory until the respective requirement has been satisfied. MUS 3703, 3704, and 3710 are remedial; they do not carry graduate degree credit.

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

All entering doctoral students are required to take a Qualifying Examination soon after enrollment in the degree. This requirement fulfills Graduate School requirements for a "Milestone Exam". Until the Examination is passed, the student's status is considered probationary, and residency status is not earned. Following passage of the Exam, the "Program of Study" should be completed, outlining the student's curricular requirements in both major and minor fields of study. The Qualifying Examination may not be waived.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT AND TIME LIMIT

To fulfill the required residency, two consecutive semesters of full-time (9 or more credits per semester) registration are required. Summer study may not be used toward this requirement. In addition, residency requirements are not fulfilled until AFTER the "Program of Study" is submitted to the Graduate School. However, if the "Program of Study" is submitted very early in the semester, that semester MAY count toward the requirement (check current Graduate Calendar for deadlines). The doctorate must be completed within seven years.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The advisory committee should be chosen in consultation with the major professor, who will chair the committee. The minor professor must be a member - two other music faculty may be chosen by the student and advisor. (At least two must come from the student's immediate area of study.) The Graduate School will appoint an outside member to the committee. All members of the committee must be members of the LSU Graduate Faculty - at least two must be at the Full Member rank.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Each PhD Composition student will be required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language at the level of two semesters of study. Language and proficiency shall be determined in consultation with the composition faculty.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Composers Forum: All composition majors are required to participate in this weekly symposium.

MINOR

A minor is required for the PhD. The minor program will be organized as a coherent program of study as determined by the minor area or department faculty, and will normally consist of 12 hours of 7000-level graduate credit, designed by the minor professor, who will serve on the committee for the student's general and final examinations. The minor area may be either within or outside the School of Music, and may be chosen from any area or department in which a graduate degree is offered. Major and minor professors must be different individuals. If music history or music theory is chosen as the minor area, the required courses in this area MAY (if agreed upon in consultation with the minor professor) count toward fulfillment of the minor requirement.

DISSERTATION

The dissertation includes as the final research project two components: a) An original composition of no less than 20 minutes employing orchestra, such as a symphony, opera, cantata, oratorio, or concerto. This work may also include electro-acoustically generated sounds. b) An original report demonstrating original research on a topic other than the candidate's own composition. It may consist of a study of the contributions of a composer, of a group of compositions, or individual concepts and techniques of composition in the twentieth century. Prior to beginning the dissertation, the student must submit a prospectus to the advisory committee for approval of the entire research project.

Students who have demonstrated to the composition faculty a mastery of the orchestra through written composition equivalent to the dissertation's required composition may present a work that does not include orchestra.

GENERAL EXAMINATION

The General Examination may be taken when all, or nearly all course requirements have been completed, or during the last semester of course work. This examination is a combination of written and oral questions, and includes questions about the major area and the minor area, as well as questions pertaining to other pertinent musical knowledge.

FINAL EXAMINATION (defense)

The final examination is to be taken after all work, including the final research project, is completed. The examination will, for the most part, be concerned with the defense of the final research project. Two semesters must pass between the General Examination and the Final Examination - see the Graduate Bulletin.

8/05

For further information on application or requirements for this degree, contact: Director of Graduate Studies, School of Music, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Tel. 225-578-3261. FAX: 225-578-2562. e-mail: sbaird@lsu.edu

Consult the University Catalog and the Graduate Bulletin for additional regulations regarding graduate study. The right is reserved to correct any typographical errors on this document.