

THEORY AREA GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS, 2019-2020

Updated 1/25/19; 3/7/19

Below is a list of graduate theory course offerings for the upcoming academic year.

A few important points to keep in mind:

1. Every student admitted to a graduate degree program in the College of Music (other than Music Education PhD or Jazz Studies students) must take the College's graduate orientation examination in music theory, a two-part examination covering written music theory and aural skills, before the first day of classes of the student's first semester of enrollment in the degree. The examination is given before the first day of classes in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The lowest passing score for each part is 70%.

** Music Education PhD students who desire to take graduate theory courses must first take and pass the examination as outlined above.*

Students who score below 70% on the written music theory orientation examination must take MUS 200 (Introduction to Music Theory) and complete it with a grade of 2.0 or higher before enrolling in any 800- or 900-level music theory course.

Students who score below 70% on the aural skills examination must take MUS 201 (Aural Skills) and complete it with a grade of 2.0 or higher at some point during the student's degree program.

*** MUS 200 and MUS 201 may not be used to meet the course or credit requirements of any College of Music degree program.***

2. Most graduate students will take tier-1 courses. These assume the theory knowledge gained in an undergraduate sequence of theory courses. Tier-2 and -3 courses assume further knowledge and mastery of skills. This tiered structure has been designed to help graduate students and their faculty advisers plan a sequence of courses appropriate to a student's background, interests, and professional aspirations. It also allows theory faculty to design courses with a more accurate sense of the level of experience and technical skill that can be assumed of students enrolled in those classes.
3. In addition to the two **required** orientation exams in basic written theory and aural skills, there are also two **optional** orientation exams in counterpoint and instrumentation/orchestration. A score of 70% or better on the counterpoint exam removes the prerequisite that attaches to MUS 869. For example, students passing the counterpoint exam would not have to take 869 before enrolling in 870, 871, or 874. Likewise, a score of 70% or better on the instrumentation/orchestration exam removes the prerequisite that attaches to MUS 877. That is, students passing the orchestration exam would not have to take 877 before enrolling in 878.

Every course marked with an asterisk() will have a corresponding question on the DMA comprehensive exam.*

FALL '19

TIER 1

*MUS 868	Topics in Music Analysis	P. Johnson	3 credits	Prereq.: none
	Topic: Galant Style: Idioms of the 18 th Century Musical Language			
*MUS 869	Graduate Counterpoint	P. Johnson	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 872	Tonal Forms	B. Taggart	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 873	Early 20th-Cent. Techniques	C. Stroud	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 877	Scoring for Orch. and Band	D. Biedenbender	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 879	Tonal Literature and Analysis	L. VanHandel	3 credits	Prereq.: none

TIER 2

*MUS 870	Advanced Modal Counterpoint	M. Callahan	3 credits	Prereq.: MUS 869
*MUS 874	Schenkerian Analysis	G. Sly	2 credits	Prereq.: 869
*MUS 970	Pedagogy of Music Theory	B. Taggart	3 credits	Prereq.: 872 or 873 or 875 or 879
MUS 973	Readings in Music Theory	L. VanHandel	3 credits	Prereq.: Permission
	Topic: Analytical and Theoretical Approaches to Rhythm and Meter			

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Updated 1/25/19

SPRING '20

TIER 1

*MUS 868	Analysis of Art Songs Topic: Analysis of Samuel Barber's Music	G. Sly	3 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 869	Graduate Counterpoint	P. Johnson	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 872	Tonal Forms	B. Taggart	2 credits	Prereq.: none
*MUS 978	Late 20 th -/21 st -Cent Techniques	TBD	2 credits	Prereq.: none

TIER 2

*MUS 871	Advanced Tonal Counterpoint	M. Callahan	3 credits	Prereq.: MUS 869
^MUS 878	Scoring for Orchestra and Band	T. Zhou	2 credits	<i>Highly Recommended: MUS 877</i>
MUS 973	Readings in Music Theory Topic: Music Perception & Cognition	L. Vanhandel	2 credits	Prereq.: Permission

TIER 3

‡MUS 977	Schenkerian Analysis II	G. Sly	3 credits	Prereq.: 874
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Notes:

^MUS 878 does not have a separate question on the comprehensive exam. There is a single question on orchestration, intended to be answerable by students who have taken either MUS 877 or MUS 878.

~MUS 971 does not have a separate question on the comprehensive exam. There is a single question on music theory pedagogy, intended to be answerable by students who have taken either MUS 970 or MUS 971.

‡MUS 972 does not have a separate question on the comprehensive exam. There is a single question on keyboard skills, intended to be answerable by students who have taken either MUS 876 or MUS 972.

‡MUS 977 does not have a separate question on the comprehensive exam. There is a single question on Schenkerian analysis, intended to be answerable by students who have taken either MUS 874 or MUS 977.

** Anyone with questions about course offerings in music theory is welcome to contact the area chairperson of music theory. **