DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS
Major Field: COMPOSITION

Program Supervisor: Prof. Daniel Kellogg

I. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS. As shown below, the D.M.A. degree requires 6 credits of graduate-level course work in musicology (not counting Music Bibliography) prior to enrolling in MUSC 6822 and 6 graduate credits in music theory prior to enrolling in MUSC 6041 and 6051.* These preparatory academic courses do not need to be officially transferred, but they must be validated in writing by the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies before the student enrolls in 6000-level courses. Also note that Preliminary Exam requirements in musicology and theory must be completed prior to registration for 5000-level or higher courses in the respective academic disciplines.

Musicology course work* in preparation for MUSC 6822

Advanced Studies in Musicology (MUSC 6822). Prerequisite: Introduction to Music Bibliography and Research (MUSC 5708) or equivalent.* With instructor’s permission, a Ph.D. seminar in musicology (MUSC 7822 or MUSC 7832) may be substituted.

Music Theory course work* in preparation for MUSC 6041 & 6051

Advanced Courses in Music Theory

Orchestration Since 1940 (MUSC 6041) offered once every two years
Pedagogy of Music Theory (MUSC 6051) offered once every two years

*Graduate-level course work from a master’s degree may apply. Upon the recommendation of the area faculty, these courses may be validated in writing by the Associate Dean. In general, these credits do not need to be officially transferred to CU.

NOTE: All Doctoral students majoring in Composition (registered for any TMUS or PMUS credits per semester) required to attend the weekly Composition Seminar.

II. COMPOSITION and DISSERTATION PROJECTS

The TMUS Composition and Dissertation Projects are undertaken with the approval of the major advisor. If a recital or project is not completed during the same semester as registration, an IP ("In Progress") grade is recorded. The IP grade is later replaced with the letter grade assigned by the student’s faculty advisory committee, and the student does not need to register again for the same TMUS project. Although the projects are numbered sequentially below, the student may complete them in a different order, following the guidance of the faculty advisory committee.

Composition Project 1 (TMUS 8119) Compositions var. 1-4 credits
Compositions totaling 30 minutes of music in a variety of genres. All compositions must be approved by the composition faculty before a grade can be entered, and it is expected that a substantial portion of this music will be publicly presented.
Composition Project 2 (TMUS 8129) Compositions  var. 1-4 credits  4
Compositions totaling 30 minutes of music in a variety of genres. All compositions must be approved by the Composition Faculty before a grade can be entered, and it is expected that a substantial portion of this music will be publicly presented.

Dissertation Project 4 (TMUS 8249) Computer Music Project  3
Research or creative work in computer music, resulting in a document of publishable quality, a substantial composition, and/or significant new software or applications.

Research Document Project (TMUS 8329)  var. 2-6 credits  4
An original research project resulting in a substantial paper of publishable quality. A written proposal must be approved in advance by the student’s advisory committee. Once the final draft has been approved, it is expected that this research will be publicly presented as a lecture.

Final Project (TMUS 8339) Major Composition  var. 3-6 credits  6
A major work of at least 20 minutes in duration, usually for orchestra or for other significant forces, as outlined in a written proposal approved in advance by the student's advisory committee.

subtotal:  21

Total:  30-42

For further details and essential information for all DMA students, please consult the General DMA Degree Guidelines at the College of Music website.