

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER  
COLLEGE OF MUSIC**DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS**  
**Major Field: COMPOSITION**

**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.

	<i>credit hours</i>
<b>Musicology course work*</b> in preparation for MUSC 6822	(0-6)
<b>Advanced Studies in Musicology</b> (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.	3
<b>Music Theory course work*</b> in preparation for MUSC 6041 & 6051	(0-6)
<b>Advanced Courses in Music Theory</b>	
<b>Orchestration Since 1940</b> (MUSC 6041) offered <i>once</i> every two years	
<b>Pedagogy of Music Theory</b> (MUSC 6051) offered <i>once</i> every two years	6
	<i>subtotal:</i> <u>9-21</u>

\*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 enrollment* 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.

**Composition Project 2** (TMUS 8129) Compositions *var. 1-4 credits enrollment* 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.

**Major Project** (TMUS 8329) *var. 2-4 credits enrollment* 4  
For both options, A written proposal must be approved in advance by the student's advisory committee. This project is presented to the advisory committee during the final oral examination.

Option 1: An original research project resulting in a substantial paper of publishable quality (at least 30 pages, double-spaced).

Option 2: A project designed to prepare the student for a desired career path upon receipt of the degree. The submitted materials should include a written description of the project with relevant resources cited and accompanying project materials. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to: a recording project such as a releasable album, a composition of substantial length that explores aspects of the student's socio-political or cultural interests, a substantial blog focused on an issue(s) that is of interest to the student, an oral history interview or series of interviews on a topic that is of interest to the student, or an off-campus themed concert program organized by the student.

**Final Project** (TMUS 8339) Major Composition *var. 3-6 credits enrollment* 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:* 

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 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.**