

# MASTER OF MUSIC

## Major Field: CHORAL CONDUCTING

### DEGREE PLAN

CATEGORY I — CHORAL CONDUCTING		<i>credit hours</i>
<b>Symposium in Choral Music</b> (MUSC 5156)		4
<b>Advanced Conducting</b> (PMUS 5136)		2
<b>Intermediate Conducting</b> (PMUS 5536) to be taken concurrently with Thesis Practicum where possible <i>var. 2-4 cr.</i>		6
<b>Thesis</b> (TMUS 6956* and TMUS 6957) <i>2 cr. total each</i>		<u>4</u>
	<i>subtotal:</i>	16
CATEGORY II — OTHER REQUIREMENTS IN MUSIC		
<b>Introduction to Music Bibliography and Research</b> (MUSC 5708)		2
<b>Music Theory elective</b> (MUSC 5__1)		3
<b>Renaissance Music</b> (MUSC 5712) <i>course offered once every two years</i>		3
<b>Applied Voice Instruction</b> (PMUS 5726) <i>var. 2 or 3 cr. and/or</i>		4
<b>Vocal Pedagogy</b> (MUSC 5444), <b>Repertory for Young Voices</b> MUSC (5454)		
<b>Choral Ensemble</b> (Required each semester of residence; credit is attached to applied study)		
	<i>subtotal:</i>	12
<b>ELECTIVES</b> (Maximum of 2 <i>credits</i> allowed for ensemble)		
	<i>subtotal:</i>	2
	<b>Total (min. req'd.)</b>	<b>30</b>

### Major Field Examination

In addition to the Preliminary Examinations, there is a Major Field entrance examination in choral conducting that consists of three parts: choral repertoire and scholarly resources background knowledge; International Phonetic Alphabet transliteration for excerpts in Italian, German, French, Latin, and English; and an oral examination of International Phonetic Alphabet examples in Italian, German, French, Latin, and English. Students needing remedial work in foreign language competency, diction, and/or phonetic knowledge will be required to remediate via the relevant foreign language and/or diction coursework. In some cases, faculty may advise a student to review independently and then be reevaluated, while encouraging continued study in modern European languages, as appropriate and as needed.

### Repertoire List

Prior to the Master Qualifying Examination (written in the semester before graduation), the student will assemble a repertoire list of sixty compositions representative of the major contributions to vocal music for ensemble performance from the *Ars nova* to the present. The list is a study guide on which the literature aspects of the Qualifying Examination will be based. The repertoire selected should survey the history of choral music and choral singing, allow for the tracing of developmental processes or formal structures, and demonstrate musical understanding of a wide range of styles, forms, and genres. The content of the completed list must be approved by the Choral Faculty at least one semester prior to the Master Qualifying Examination.

\* ***Choral Conducting Recital*** (TMUS 6956 - 2 credits) Provide complete concerts or compilations of works. All literature for choral recitals must be approved at the beginning of the semester prior to directing any rehearsal and performance. Outside ensembles may be used if approved by the choral faculty in advance (the semester prior) of engaging the choir in recital rehearsals and performances. The recorded recitals (those not presented as a live continuous concert) are to be submitted to the faculty via a digital platform such as YouTube, Vimeo, or the like. The format of the video should be a combination of two camera positions (one facing the conductor and one from the audience perspective) with an added audio track of the very highest quality. Rehearsals should be done under the supervision of one or both choral faculty members. Recitals will be evaluated based on (1) the conductor's ability to program creatively representing all historical style periods; (2) knowledge of ensemble and vocal pedagogy; (3) stage decorum of both conductor and performers; and (4) the ability to communicate with an ensemble as well as the audience. In addition, the student should provide program notes, including poetic translations for all works conducted, 1 month in advance of the event. Word for word text translations for 5 selections should be presented for selected works (as advised by the choral faculty) from either or both recitals. The expected length of the recital is approximately 30 minutes.

◀ A Research Paper or a Recital in an applied medium other than conducting will comprise TMUS 6957. The paper, normally related to the Choral Conducting Recital, should demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively about music and the capacity to give to the profession something either creative and innovative or substantial and scholarly. Typically, the research paper (30-40 pages of text) serves as conductor's guide, which includes: biographical information, analysis of the repertoire, conducting problems and context and relevance of the repertoire. A Recital may be presented if the student regularly studies voice or the instrument at the 5000 level and if the particular applied faculty approves the recital in preview.

*Please see separate General M.M. Degree Guidelines document for essential additional information.*