DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (DMA) DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF COMPOSITION

Program Learning Outcomes for the DMA Degree

Upon completing the DMA degree, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical and musical competence in performance or composition at a professional level.
2. Develop highly developed analytical skills in advanced music theory and a profound understanding of how those skills inform music performance.
3. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the relationship between music history and music performance with greater familiarity of a wide variety of historical and contemporary performance practices.
4. Develop career development skills that complement their professional-level performance skills.
5. Develop working knowledge of and have experience with both classroom teaching and studio teaching methods at the conservatory and university levels.

Requirements for the DMA Degree

For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/degrees). Students pursuing the DMA degree must complete:

- A minimum of 90 credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree to satisfy degree requirements.

Requirements for the DMA Degree in the field of Composition

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the DMA Degree in the field of Composition</td>
<td>96</td>
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Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</table>

Composition Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 601</td>
<td>COMPOSITION FOR MAJORS ADVANCED AND GRADUATES (minimum of 6 semesters)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 603</td>
<td>GRADUATE COMPOSITION SEMINAR (minimum of 6 semesters)</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 605</td>
<td>ADVANCED ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER MUSIC SYSTEMS</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 606</td>
<td>ADVANCED COMPUTER SOUND SYNTHESIS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 751</td>
<td>DOCTORAL SOLO RECITAL</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

Performance Requirements

Select 8 credit hours in Performance coursework

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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DMA Core Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 611</td>
<td>CLASSROOM PEDAGOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 711</td>
<td>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 733</td>
<td>DOCTORAL SEMINAR I: CAREER SKILLS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 735</td>
<td>DOCTORAL SEMINAR II: REPERTORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 738</td>
<td>DOCTORAL INDIVIDUAL PROJECT</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Academic Coursework

Select 6 courses from the Music History course offerings (see below for course list) 18
Select 4 courses from the Music Theory course offerings (see below for course list) 12

Elective Requirements

Select 7 credit hours at the 300-level or above

Classroom Teaching

Students must complete the Classroom Teaching requirement

Examinations

Students must demonstrate the following proficiencies:
- Piano proficiency
- Aural skills proficiency
- Written and oral qualifying examinations

Doctoral Document

MUSI 800   DISSERTATION (2 semesters) 3

Total Credit Hours

Footnotes and Additional Information

1 Two (2) doctoral recitals of original compositions.
2 Performance coursework may be satisfied by any combination of private instrumental and/or vocal study (such as MUSI 251:297 except MUSI 281 Secondary Piano, MUSI 351:373, MUSI 381:398), classes in conducting or score reading, or performance in large ensembles or sonata class (such as MUSI 334, MUSI 436, MUSI 444, MUSI 502, MUSI 514, MUSI 585 MUSI 636, or MUSI 640). Piano lessons are strongly recommended.
3 6 courses (3 credit hours each) comprise the 18 credit hours required of Music History coursework.
4 4 courses (3 credit hours each) comprise the 12 credit hours required of Music Theory coursework.
5 Graduate academic coursework taken elsewhere may be transferred with the approval of the relevant Department Chair. Additional hours of required coursework may not count toward the elective requirement. A maximum of three (3) credit hours of MUSI 649 Graduate Independent Study can count towards degree requirements.
6 Diagnostic examinations in music history and music theory are given prior to admission to The Shepherd School, and play an important role in the admissions decision. Weaknesses in these areas will be addressed by courses designated by the chairs of the respective departments. These will count within either the Academic Coursework or Elective category. Doctoral students must also pass proficiency exams in aural skills and piano. These exams are scheduled at the beginning of each academic year. If required, MUSI 432 Graduate Aural Skills Review and/or MUSI 281 Secondary Piano must be taken, but neither will count towards the total number of hours required for the degree.
Students are required to write an original composition of substantial dimensions. The composition must be publicly defended and submitted, following the university’s regulations and procedures for candidacy, oral examination, and thesis.

Music History and Theory Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 422</td>
<td>RENAISSANCE MUSIC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 429 / MDEM 429</td>
<td>MUSIC OF THE MIDDLE AGES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 523</td>
<td>BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH METHODS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 524</td>
<td>AMERICAN MUSIC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 525</td>
<td>PERFORMANCE PRACTICES SEMINAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 527</td>
<td>TOPICS IN EARLY MUSIC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 528</td>
<td>TOPICS IN THE 17TH AND 18TH CENTURIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 529</td>
<td>TOPICS IN 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 530</td>
<td>MUSIC, MAGIC, AND SCIENCE IN THE MODERN WORLD</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 534</td>
<td>PROGRAM MUSIC IN THE 19TH CENTURY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 537</td>
<td>SATIE, COCTEAU, &amp; LES SIX: PARIS IN THE 1920s AND BEYOND</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 543</td>
<td>MUSIC AND MODERNISM IN FRANCE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 551</td>
<td>MUSIC OF RICHARD STRAUSS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 552</td>
<td>WORDS AND MUSIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 621</td>
<td>SELECTED STUDIES IN MUSIC HISTORY</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 622</td>
<td>EARLY OPERA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 623</td>
<td>J.S. BACH: CAREER, WORKS, AND CRITICAL RECEPTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 624</td>
<td>SEMINAR ON A SELECTED COMPOSER</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 625</td>
<td>MOZART OPERAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 626</td>
<td>THE CLASSICAL STYLE</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 627</td>
<td>ROMANTIC SONGS AND PIANO PIECES</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 721</td>
<td>MUSIC OF SCHOENBERG</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 722</td>
<td>MUSIC OF STRAVINSKY</td>
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Music Theory Courses

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 512</td>
<td>ANALYTICAL SYSTEMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 513</td>
<td>MODAL COUNTERPOINT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 514</td>
<td>SCORING AND THEORY AT THE KEYBOARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 516</td>
<td>ADVANCED ORCHESTRATION</td>
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<td>MUSI 517</td>
<td>EARLY MODERN MASTERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 605</td>
<td>ADVANCED ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER MUSIC SYSTEMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 606</td>
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<td>CLASSROOM PEDAGOGY</td>
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<td>MUSI 613</td>
<td>TONAL COUNTERPOINT</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 614</td>
<td>SPECIAL TOPICS IN MUSIC THEORY COMPOSITION</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 615</td>
<td>MUSIC OF RAVEL: MUSIC THEORY AND COMPOSITION</td>
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<td>MUSI 617</td>
<td>MUSIC SINCE 1950</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 711</td>
<td>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES</td>
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<td>MUSI 712</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN ADVANCED ANALYSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 713</td>
<td>SPECIAL TOPICS IN ADVANCED ANALYSIS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MUSI 723</td>
<td>AESTHETICS OF MUSIC</td>
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**Policies for the DMA Degree**

**Shepherd School of Music Graduate Program Handbook**

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the Shepherd School of Music publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: [https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2018_19/Shepherd_School_of_Music_Graduate_Handbook.pdf](https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2018_19/Shepherd_School_of_Music_Graduate_Handbook.pdf)

**Academic Standards**

**Curriculum and Degree Requirements**

Further information on curricular requirements for all majors and degree programs is available from the Shepherd School of Music.

**Grading Policy**

A minimum grade of B- (2.67 grade points) is expected of all music students in their major applied area. A grade of C+ (2.33 grade points) or lower is considered unsatisfactory and will be evaluated in the following manner:

A music major who receives a grade of C+ (2.33 grade points) or lower in their major applied area will be placed on music probation. Music probation signifies that the student’s work has been sufficiently unsatisfactory to preclude graduation unless marked improvement is achieved promptly. A student on music probation may be absent from class only for extraordinary reasons and may not represent the school in any public function not directly a part of a degree program.

If a student receives a second semester of C+ (2.33 grade points) or lower in their major applied area, whether for consecutive semesters or not, the student will be discontinued as a music performance major and merit scholarship from the Shepherd School will be discontinued.

**Note:** For music history and musicology majors a grade of C+ (2.33 grade points) or lower in any music history course is considered unsatisfactory and will be evaluated as above.

**Graduate degree requirement:** a minimum grade point average of 2.67 is necessary for graduation.

**Leaves of Absence and Voluntary Withdrawal**

Music majors must obtain permission in writing from the dean of the Shepherd School before requesting a leave of absence from the university. Requests must be in the dean’s office before the first day of classes in the semester for which leave is requested.

Music majors taking voluntary withdrawal from the university are not guaranteed readmission into the Shepherd School and may be asked to reapply/reaudition. Students should explain the reasons for their withdrawal to the dean before leaving campus.

**Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Shepherd School of Music website: [https://music.rice.edu](https://music.rice.edu)
Opportunities for the DMA Degree

Other Musical Opportunities

Lectures and Performances
A visiting lecturer series, a professional concert series, and numerous distinguished visiting musicians contribute to the Shepherd School environment. The Houston Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Chorus, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Ballet, Houston Masterworks Chorus, Da Camera, Context, and Chamber Music Houston, as well as the activities of other institutions of higher learning in the area, also provide exceptional opportunities for students to enjoy a wide spectrum of music.

Additional Information
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