

# Musicology, M.A.

---

## Degree Offered

- Master of Arts

## Nature of the Program

Students completing the Master's Program in Musicology develop a broad understanding of the primary methods used in musicological and ethnomusicological research. Courses and seminars explore a wide range of musical repertoires and scholarly debates, and the curriculum encourages students to engage meaningfully with the field through pedagogical training and focused research.

The theses of recent graduates have explored the construction of female identity through sheet music collection in the post-bellum U.S. South, early twentieth-century violin pedagogy and African American racial uplift, sexual consent in contemporary country songs, performance practice in the music of Brahms, and the ethics of musical improvisation with computer agents.

Recent graduates have entered leading North American doctoral programs or have found employment in occupations drawing heavily upon the expertise and skills developed through our degree program.

## Admissions for 2025-2026

Admission to the Master of Arts in Musicology requires academic transcripts, three letters of reference from academic faculty, a personal statement, and a representative sample of academic writing (minimum of 10 pages in length). Applicants must demonstrate a grade point average of at least 3.0 in all undergraduate studies to be considered for admission.

Major Code: 3731

## Degree Requirements

Students must demonstrate the equivalent of four semesters of training in a language other than English.

Code	Title	Hours
Overall GPA of 3.0 or higher is required.		
MUSC 670	Perspectives of Musicology and Ethnomusicology	3
MUSC 671	Music History Pedagogy 1 (Music History Pedagogy)	3
MUSC 771	Music Research and Bibliography	3
MUSC 697	Research	4
Ensembles (at least 1 credit must be a world music ensemble)		2
Select 2 of the following courses:		6
MUSC 470A	Topics in Popular Music	
MUSC 470B	Topics in the Study of Western Art Music	
MUSC 470C	Topics in the History of Jazz	
MUSC 470D	Topics in Music of Sub-Saharan Africa	
MUSC 470E	Topics in Musics of the Americas	
MUSC 470F	Topics in Musics of East Asia	
MUSC 470G	Topics in Musics of South Asia	
MUSC 470H	Topics in Gender and Sexuality in Music	
MUSC 470I	Topics in Race and Ethnicity in Music	
MUSC 470J	Topics in Musics of the Arab World	
MUSC 477	Music of Africa	
Select two of the following courses		6
MUSC 593	Special Topics	
MUSC 793	Special Topics	
MUSC 796	Graduate Seminar	
Select one of the following courses		2
MUSC 461	Counterpoint, 16th Century	
MUSC 462	Counterpoint, 18th Century	
MUSC 463	Analysis of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Music	

MUSC 464	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music	
MUSC 465S	Electronic Music	
MUSC 761	Theory Topics	
MUSC 762	Pedagogy of Theory	
MUSC 763	Analytical Techniques	
MUSC 764	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music	
Electives		6
Comprehensive Oral Qualifying Examination		
Total Hours		35

## Major Learning Outcomes

### MUSICOLOGY

Students who successfully complete the MA in Musicology will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a working understanding of the intellectual history of musicology;
2. Discuss recent trends in musicological scholarship and in related fields, including music theory and analysis;
3. Develop level-appropriate course materials using best practices in music history pedagogy;
4. Develop and implement an independent research project using musicological research methods;
5. Communicate effectively in written and oral venues.