

Guidelines - Graduate Degrees in Musicology

Master of Arts (MA) Plan 1

ADMISSIONS		In addition to the normal application documents, students submit a writing sample, generally an undergraduate music history paper or a Master's thesis in musicology.
ANALYSIS EXAM	DESCRIPTION	A take-home exam intended to allow the candidate to demonstrate his or her familiarity with form and analysis. This exam is usually administered during the second year of course work.
	CONTENT	<p>The material generally consists of a movement from the standard 18th- or 19th-century repertoire, and the candidate may choose any analytical approach that seems appropriate.</p> <p>Students are asked not to consult outside sources, but use their knowledge and skills to analyze the work.</p> <p>The successful candidate will both lucidly parse the formal, harmonic and motivic elements of the work in question and also make some statements about what makes the particular work distinctive and interesting.</p>
	EVALUATION	The exam will be evaluated by two members of the musicology area.
THESIS	COMMITTEE	<p>Three members, at least two whom are from the Musicology faculty.</p> <p><i>Per Academic Senate policy, MA and PhD committees must consist of at least three UCSB ladder faculty members, two of whom (including the chair or co-chair) must be from the student's home department. Non-ladder faculty may serve as a fourth member of the committee, but require approval of the Graduate Council to serve as co-chairs.</i></p>
	DESCRIPTION	A 40-50 page, in-depth historical study based on a topic designed in consultation with faculty on the Master's Committee.

MA / Ph.D. Plan 2

(Combined Master of Arts & Doctor of Philosophy)

ADMISSIONS		In addition to the normal application documents, students submit a writing sample, generally an undergraduate music history paper or a Master's thesis in musicology.
ANALYSIS EXAM	DESCRIPTION	A take-home exam intended to allow the candidate to demonstrate his or her familiarity with form and analysis. This exam is usually administered during the second year of course work.
	CONTENT	<p>The material generally consists of a movement from the standard 18th- or 19th-century repertoire, and the candidate may choose any analytical approach that seems appropriate.</p> <p>Students are asked not to consult outside sources, but use their knowledge and skills to analyze the work.</p> <p>The successful candidate will both lucidly parse the formal, harmonic and motivic elements of the work in question and also make some statements about what makes the particular work distinctive and interesting.</p>
	EVALUATION	The exam will be evaluated by two members of the musicology area.
QUALIFYING EXAMS	COMMITTEE	<p>At least three members of the musicology faculty. Additional members, including faculty from other areas and departments, may be added with the mutual agreement of the candidate and the other committee members.</p> <p><i>Per Academic Senate policy, MA and PhD committees must consist of at least three UCSB ladder faculty members, two of whom (including the chair or co-chair) must be from the student's home department. Non-ladder faculty may serve as a fourth member of the committee, but require approval of the Graduate Council to serve as co-chairs.</i></p>

	CONTENT	<p>There will be two types of questions on the written portions of the exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first will draw on the chosen research areas, and will require knowledge not just of the repertoire and historical narratives in question, but also of the historiographic issues connected to those areas. These answers are intended to demonstrate that the candidate is competent to do independent research, and to develop and lead courses in musicology at the graduate level. • The second type of question may be drawn from any area of music history, and the answers will demonstrate a basic knowledge of music history. The answers to the second type of question should demonstrate that the candidate is competent to teach a full range of music history survey courses at the undergraduate level.
	PREPARATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are encouraged to take the qualifying exams during their third year. Preparation time is normally three quarters, with the exam occurring near the end of the third quarter. • Each candidate will assemble a list of five research areas, to be approved by the committee. • These areas will be selected so as to overlap as little as possible in terms of historical period, geographical area and musical genre. • Candidates are asked to assemble bibliography while exploring agreed-upon exam content, and to consult with committee members regularly for guidance and feedback on their progress.
	STRUCTURE & SCHEDULE	<p>The written exam takes place over three full days, typically on M-W-F, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days of written essays (8:30-12:00 & 1:00-4:30). For each of the four sessions, the candidate will address two questions from a given list. • One day of score identifications. Approximately eighteen pages from unidentified works, which the candidate is to evaluate in terms of style and genre.
	ORAL EXAM	<p>The oral exam generally takes place the week following the written exams.</p> <p>It involves discussion of the written essays, the score IDs, as well as further questions that arise spontaneously in the course of the oral exam.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the oral exams, the candidate will be asked to discuss his or her dissertation plans.</p>

DISSERTATION	COMMITTEE	<p>At least three ladder-faculty members (as specified by Academic Senate policy), of which the chair and at least one other member must come from the musicology faculty. Additional members, including faculty from other areas and departments, may be added with the mutual agreement of the candidate and the other committee members. This committee need not be the same as the qualifying exam committee.</p> <p><i>Per Academic Senate policy, MA and PhD committees must consist of at least three UCSB ladder faculty members, two of whom (including the chair or co-chair) must be from the student's home department. Non-ladder faculty may serve as a fourth member of the committee, but require approval of the Graduate Council to serve as co-chairs.</i></p>
	PROPOSAL	<p>After successful completion of the qualifying exam, generally within a quarter, the candidate will be expected to submit a dissertation proposal for the approval of the dissertation committee. This document should (a) describe a research problem of appropriate scope and substance, (b) lay out the proposed research methodologies, (c) contain a literature survey, and (d) present a chapter-by-chapter outline of the proposed dissertation.</p>
	DISSERTATION	<p>A substantial document containing original research, of the quality appropriate for eventual partial publication in peer-reviewed journals or revision into a book to be published by a university press. Dimensions and structure will vary, depending on the individual topic. Typically, a dissertation has five to six chapters (including an introductory chapter), with each chapter approximately 25-40 pages in length.</p>