School of Music
Orientation:
Graduate Academics

Dr. Lynn Eustis, Director of Graduate Studies
Fall 2021
Important Resources

- Boston University Bulletin:
  - [http://www.bu.edu/academics/cfa/programs/](http://www.bu.edu/academics/cfa/programs/)

- School of Music website:
  - [http://www.bu.edu/cfa/music](http://www.bu.edu/cfa/music)

- The Music Bridge
  - [http://sites.bu.edu/musicbridge/](http://sites.bu.edu/musicbridge/)
The Graduate Studies Committee

- Chaired by Dr. Lynn Eustis
- Meets monthly on Thursdays; dates may be found in the Handbook.
- Reviews and approves proposals for terminal projects
- In complex cases, considers petitions for exceptions to degree program policies
Faculty Academic Contacts

● Your Departmental Faculty Advisor

● Chair of Composition and Music Theory
  ● Prof. Martin Amlin

● Chair of Musicology
  ● Prof. Michael Birenbaum Quintero

● Chair of String Department
  ● Prof. Michelle LaCourse

● Chair of Brass/Winds/Percussion
  ● Prof. Don Lucas

● Chair of Piano and Collaborative Piano
  ● Prof. Shiela Kibbe

● Chair of Voice
  ● Prof. Douglas Sumi

● Chair of Music Education
  ● Prof. Karin Hendricks
Planning your program of study

- Make a spreadsheet of your course requirements and plan a strategy for completing them in consultation with your advisor.

- Know the time-to-completion limits for your program:
  - Master of Music & Performance Diploma: 5 years
  - Doctor of Musical Arts: 7 years

- Use Degree Advice on your Student Link to track progress.

- DMA Performance students will be required to declare a track (Dissertation or Recital) by the beginning of the second year of study.
You will review your Proficiency Exam results with your advisor in your scheduled appointment.

Courses to take first:
- Any 400-level music theory courses (MM and DMA) required by your proficiency exam results
- Any 400-level musicology courses (DMA only) required by your proficiency exam results

**Note:** You may not take any 600-level courses in theory or musicology until you have taken your required remedial courses. Do not register for both MT401 and a 600-level theory course this fall.
Proficiency Exam Results: Music Theory

- If your exam shows that you need remedial study BEFORE you can take a graduate level course:
  - You must pass MT 401, Graduate Theory Review, before you can take any other music theory courses.
  - This course does not count toward your degree total but will be applied to your total number of credits for the semester.
If your exam identified particular areas for improvement, you may be recommended to take MT601 and/or MT602.

These courses DO apply to your degree program as part of your MT/MH component.

You may not take these courses until you have taken MT401 with a grade of B- or better (or passed the proficiency exam).
Proficiency Exam Results: Music History

- DMA students: if your exam shows that you need remedial work before you can take graduate courses in music history, you will be required to take MH401.

- These courses do not count toward your degree program.
Academic Courses: AD, PD, and OI Students

- Students in the Artist Diploma, Performance Diploma and Opera Institute programs do not take the proficiency examinations.

- AD, PD and OI students may not take academic courses at the 600-level. This includes MH 611, MT601 and MT602, as well as MT401, which is reserved for MM and DMA students.
Graduate Music Electives

- Must carry number of 500 or higher.
- 100-level PDP courses and non-major music lessons do not count toward graduate degrees.
  - The flat-rate tuition allows some room for these courses.
- Must carry a music prefix: ML, MP, MH, MT, ME, MU
  - Exception: MET Entrepreneurship courses, which are pre-approved as graduate music electives
- Applied lesson credits may be applied as electives on a limited basis
  - Up to 2 credits for MM students and up to 5 credits for DMA students
Additional Degree Requirements

- Your degree program includes non-course requirements (as they appear in Degree Advice). Some of these items may include:
  - Recitals
  - Terminal projects
  - Comprehensive examinations (MM)
  - Qualifying examinations (DMA)
  - Language requirement (DMA)

- Know the non-course requirements for your program and include them in your timeline for completing your degree.
Your Role

● **Take ownership** of your program from beginning to end.

● Your faculty advisor is critically important, but **you determine** the specifics of your own path.

● **You are responsible** for knowing requirements, prerequisites, deadlines, sequences of events, schedules of proficiency and qualifying exams, also for filing forms and applying for exams on time.

● Other students are not your best sources of information. **If you don’t know, ASK a faculty or staff member.**
Plagiarism

- Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in serious consequences.

- For a detailed discussion of what constitutes plagiarism, consult the University’s Academic Conduct Code:
  - http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/
First Things First

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

Mark Twain
(1835-1910)