

MUSIC: MUSICOLOGY (M.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/music/program/ma/music-musicology>

Description

Beginning in the 2025-2026 academic year, the Music: Musicology M.A. is pausing admissions to the program. Current students will continue to have access to the same high-quality education and resources until they graduate.

The Master of Arts in Musicology offers the opportunity for in-depth study of music history, theory, and criticism. The option is valuable to students who wish to augment undergraduate degrees in performance and/or music education with more intensive academic studies. The Department of Music has maintained a long history of excellence in music historical study and performance. Many graduates have gone on to pursue Ph.D.s and D.M.A.s in music. The M.A. in musicology offers enough electives so that students may also pursue advanced study in performance of an instrument or voice if qualified and accepted by an instructor upon a successful audition.

This degree program has final approval from the National Association of Schools of Music.

Requirements

Completion of the program requires a written research project of substantive nature on a topic of the candidate's special interest. An alternative for some students will be a lecture-recital and written essay. Students emphasizing performance are encouraged to present public recitals in addition to the above. A final oral examination assesses the ability to apply critical thinking to music literature and to describe personal advanced independent work of particular interest.

All of the Master of Arts in Music options require **30 credit hours** as well as a final project for completion of the degree.

Code	Title	Credits
Concentration		
MUSI 869	Musicology Seminar ¹	9
MUSI 891	Research Seminar	1-4
Supportive Courses in Music		
MUSI 865	Introduction to Bibliography	3
MUSI 894	Theory Seminar	3
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
MUSI 801	Topics in Music History	
Electives ²		
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
MUSI 871 Counterpoint		
Musicology Courses		
MUSI 801	Topics in Music History ⁴	
Applied Lessons Courses		
MUSI 845	Graduate Voice	
MUSI 848	Graduate Cello	
MUSI 855	Graduate Bassoon	
MUSI 895	Special Studies ³	
MUSI 831	Advanced Instrumental Conducting	

¹ Enroll in MUSI 869 Musicology Seminar three times, usually with three different instructors.

² Normally, electives will be chosen only from offerings within the Department of Music. Students wishing to enroll in electives outside

the department are permitted to do so in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Music.

³ MUSI 895 Special Studies may be used to enroll in large and studio ensembles for a total of 6 credits.

⁴ MUSI 801 Topics in Music History can be repeated for credit, each semester with a different topic and/or different instructor.

Concentration and Supportive Courses are required; other electives are possible with approval of department.

Accelerated Master's

This graduate program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with certain undergraduate degree programs.

General Accelerated Master's policy, note that some programs have additional requirements (e.g. higher grade expectations) compared to the policy.

Please see the Graduate School website and contact the department directly for more information.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes General Competencies for All Music MA Programs

- Demonstrate advanced capacities to work independently and make effective artistic and intellectual judgments and professional decisions in the area of specialization by producing a final project or equivalent.
- Demonstrate advanced competence in the area of specialization.

Additional Competencies: MA in Musicology

- Demonstrate advanced competencies in musicology, theory, and criticism through written work and research papers in graduate-level music history and theory courses.
- Demonstrate appropriate competency in music theory and analysis by using the analytical tools and research concerns in music theory and analysis appropriately in writing and research.
- Demonstrate professional capability in the major area of study by completing a final project that demonstrates advanced competence and intellectual independence in research and writing in musicology.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking to music literature and to describe personal advanced independent work of particular interest.