Mission Statement

The Master of Music in Composition is designed for composers who have completed undergraduate training and wish to pursue more concentrated and intensive training in their craft. The goals of the program are: 1) To deepen the young composer’s technical mastery to a level where s/he is capable of entering the professional arena. This includes a mastery of contemporary and traditional techniques, a wide-ranging training in new technological applications, and the development of a portfolio of works, accompanied as much as possible by their performance and recording, so as to demystify the concrete process or realizing music from initial conception to definitive artifact. 2) To expose the student to advanced topics in music history and theory, giving them the academic tools to allow him or her to begin teaching musical subjects with confidence, or to continue studies successfully at the doctoral level.

Student Learning Goals

1. Students will be able to compose works in a variety of media and genres, including a work of substantial scope.

2. Students will be able to teach basic courses in composition, theory, and history at the undergraduate level.

3. Students will be able to identify important repertoire works from the twentieth century and contemporary literature and have deep familiarity with selected works from this repertoire.

4. Student will be able to use advance music technology for a variety of purposes, including the notation of scores, creation of original electronic and multimedia works, and pedagogy.

5. Students will be able to employ practical musical skills to effect the successful performance of their compositions, whether through coaching, conducting, or performance.