Mission Statement

The Master of Music in Music Theory is primarily a stepping stone to doctoral study in Music Theory. It may also serve as a means of acquiring musical competency to aid instrumental or classroom instruction. The curriculum centers on developing the student’s analytical skills, knowledge of the history and diversity of music theory, and introducing the student to analytical research. This is achieved through graduate seminars in the music theory, analysis, bibliography, and music history. Skills in counterpoint ear training, and score reading are also developed. A Master’s thesis serves as the capstone.

Student Learning Goals

1. Students will be able to demonstrate fluency in the standard techniques of the analysis of Western music, from the common practice to the present.

2. Students will be able to demonstrate practical musicianship skills appropriate for a beginning scholar or teacher.

3. Students will be able to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of music history and literature.

4. Students will be able to acquire up-to-date primary and secondary scholarly resources with the use of computer-based search techniques.

5. Students will be able to communicate verbally complex ideas related to the origin and evolution of musical thought to others.

6. Students will be able to produce scholarly writing.