Music (Musicology), PhD

Our students engage in multisensory learning experiences to explore forms and genres, performance practices, instruments, spaces, philosophies, identities, musical infrastructures and geographic locations.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Music (Musicology)

The PhD program in music with a concentration in musicology focuses on the scholarly study of music in historical contexts and on musical traditions as sociocultural artifact as well as on behavior and performance.

Students explore and engage in multisensory learning experiences concerning forms and genres, performance practices, instruments, spaces, philosophies, musical infrastructures and geographic locations.

Coursework includes specialized study in musicology, support studies with scholars and artists in the School of Music, the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, and opportunities for transdisciplinary study with faculty in schools and institutes across ASU. A plan of study is designed by the student with the faculty to support an individualized research trajectory. Research conducted by students in the doctoral program in musicology aims to examine and interrogate the discipline of musicology and to expand the traditional boundaries of music scholarship by challenging methodological and disciplinary boundaries. The program concludes with a dissertation.

At a Glance

- College/School: Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- Location: Tempe campus

Degree Requirements
90 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, two foreign language exams, and a dissertation

**Required Core (10 credit hours)**
- MSI 601 Contemporary Topics in Music Research (2)
- MSI 602 Current Issues in Music Research (2)
- MSI 755 Historical Research in Music (3)
- MTC 520 Analytical Techniques (3)

**Concentration (15 credit hours)**
- MHL 632 Applied Musicology (3)
- MHL 668 Introduction to Ethnomusicology (3)
- MHL 691 Seminars (9)

**Electives and Research (17 credit hours)**

**Other Requirement (6 credit hours)**
- MHL 684 Internship (6)

**Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)**
- MHL 799 Dissertation (12)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Completion of diagnostic exams in music history and music theory is required of all new graduate music students prior to enrollment in the ASU School of Music.

Students take three seminars for three credit hours each for the concentration. Equivalent courses may be used with preapproval by the student's faculty advisor. No more than six credit hours outside of the School of Music may apply to this requirement.

Students should see the academic unit for a complete list of approved electives and research courses.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. Students entering the program without an earned MA degree will complete the requirements for the Master of Arts in music with a concentration in ethnomusicology or music history and literature.

Additional information on degree requirements for all graduate music programs may be found on the check-sheets: [https://music.asu.edu/degree-programs/graduate/](https://music.asu.edu/degree-programs/graduate/)

**Admission Requirements**
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a U. S. bachelor's degree in music or a graduate degree from an accredited college or university of recognized standing in music history, musicology, ethnomusicology or music theory.

Applicants must have achieved a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee: [https://students.asu.edu/graduate/admissions](https://students.asu.edu/graduate/admissions)
2. School of Music application (including curriculum vitae, two-page personal statement expressing the goal in pursuing this degree and two writing samples): [https://music.asu.edu/admissions/grad/](https://music.asu.edu/admissions/grad/)
3. official transcripts
4. GRE scores
5. three letters of recommendation
6. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. The School of Music does not offer conditional admission under any circumstances: [https://students.asu.edu/graduate/proficiency](https://students.asu.edu/graduate/proficiency). In order to meet English proficiency requirements, students should have a TOEFL score of at least 550 (PBT) or 80 (iBT), or an IELTS overall band score of at least 6.5, or a Pearson Test of English score of at least 60.

Two writing samples must be submitted with the School of Music application. It’s preferable that each of these samples be a paper from an upper-level undergraduate course or a graduate course, or an article or document written by the applicant.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

**Contact Information**

School of Music | MUSIC E167
MusicAdmissions@asu.edu | 460-965-5069
Admission Deadlines