

Requirements for the Master of Music in Music Theory Degree

Michigan State University

The student's program of study must be approved by the student's academic advisor, who must be a member of the Music Theory faculty. A total of 29–31 credits is required. The student must meet the requirements specified below:

1. All of the following courses (15 credits):

MUS 874 Schenkerian Analysis.....	2
MUS 876 Keyboard Skills and Improvisation	3
MUS 970 Pedagogy of Theory I.....	3
MUS 971 Pedagogy of Theory II.....	3
MUS 974 Proseminar in Post-Tonal Theory and Analysis.....	2
MUS 979 Proseminar in Music Theory.....	2

2. One of the following courses (3 credits):

MUS 870 Advanced Modal Counterpoint	3
MUS 871 Advanced Tonal Counterpoint	3

If a student takes both 870 and 871, one may be counted toward requirement #3 below.

3. At least five credits to be chosen from the following:

MUS 875 Analysis of Musical Scores	3
MUS 972 Advanced Keyboard Skills.....	3
MUS 976 Performance and Analysis	3
MUS 977 Schenkerian Analysis II	3
MUS 978 Analysis of Contemporary Music.....	2

4. Complete two semesters of MUS 973 (Readings in Music Theory), totaling 4 credits.

If a student completes a third semester of MUS 973, it may be counted toward requirement #3 above.

5. Complete 3 credits in musicology at the 400 level or above. MUS 830 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

6. Participate in music activities during two semesters of enrollment in the program. The activities must be approved in advance by the student's academic advisor, and selected from band, chamber ensemble, chorus, jazz band, new-music ensemble, and orchestra.

7. Complete a Teaching Demonstration. The demonstration must take place after the student has completed MUS 970 (Pedagogy of Music Theory I). The demonstration will occupy a class period of an undergraduate course in Music Theory to be determined by the area chairperson. It will be graded by a three-person committee selected by the area chairperson and comprised of the course supervisor, another member of the Music Theory faculty, and one faculty member from outside the Theory Area. The grade will be pass/fail, based upon a majority vote of the three committee members.

8. Present a capstone research project publicly at a music theory colloquium, to be advised and approved by a member of the Music Theory faculty. The project may be on either a research-related or a pedagogical topic, and must be similar in scope and format to a conference presentation. Students may choose a project begun or completed as part of a graduate seminar in music theory (such as MUS 971, MUS 973, MUS 974, MUS 977, MUS 978, or MUS 979) and revise and/or expand it as determined by the faculty advisor, or they may work on a new project or an expansion of a research paper from a different course.