

University of South Carolina School of Music
DOCTOR OF MUSIC ARTS: Performance – Piano (48 credits Post-Masters)

Name _____ **Semester of Admission** _____

Major Area (23–26 credits including 12-credit Dissertation Requirement)

Area	Course prefix and number	Course Title	Term	Grade	Credits
Applied Study (6 credits)	MUSC 811	Doctoral Applied Music			
	MUSC 811				
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Literature ¹ (2–4 credits)					
Pedagogy ² (2–4 credits)					
Chamber Music	MUSC 735				1
Recital Preparation (6 credits)	MUSC 891	Recital Preparation			
Recitals ³ (4 credits)	MUSC 896	Solo Recital			1
	MUSC 896	Solo Recital			1
	MUSC 896	Solo Recital			1
Document (2 credits)	MUSC 897	Document Preparation			

Effective: 2026–2027 bulletin year; updated 7/22/2026 by JDJ

¹ MUSC 775 or 740P; no more than seven credits of Literature and Pedagogy courses in total in the major area

² MUSC 773, 774, 776, or 801; Pedagogy courses may also apply to a Pedagogy minor

³ Must include one credit of either MUSC 892 (Lecture Recital), 894 (Concerto Recital) or 895 (Chamber Recital); students must enter Candidacy before presenting a degree-applicable recital

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Other Studies in Music (24–26 credits)

Area	Course prefix and number	Course Title	Term	Grade	Credits
Research ⁴	MUSC 747	Advanced Music Research			2
Music History (6 credits)					3
					3
Music Theory ⁵ (6 credits)					3
					3
Electives ⁶ (10–12 credits)					

Additional Requirements

Requirement	Date or Semester completed (if needed)
Graduate Music Diagnostic Exam results required to register	
All requirements from Diagnostic Exams resolved	
Doctoral Candidacy Written Exam	
Doctoral Candidacy Hearing/Recital	
Foreign Language/Research Course	
Program of Study submitted by the end of the fourth semester	
Written Comprehensive Exam	
Oral Comprehensive Exam	
Document Prospectus approved	
Document Defense	
GPA ≥ 3.0	
at least 1/2 of credit hours at 700-level exclusive of recital credit	
Residency: either two consecutive full-time semesters or 18 credits over three semesters	

⁴ MUSC 707 (or an equivalent course from a prior degree) required before MUSC 747. MUSC 707 can apply to “Other Studies.”

⁵ Students must either pass the Diagnostic Exam in Music Theory or MUSC 523 before taking any degree-applicable music theory courses. MUSC 719 is encouraged before taking the DMA Exam in Music Theory.

⁶ Advisor-approved MUSC courses 700-level and above; may not include courses that have been applied to the Major Area; **cannot include more than four credits** of MUSC 734A–V and/or MUSC 735A–U in total; Piano Performance majors may include Piano Pedagogy courses beyond those applied in the major area

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Music History Courses

MUSC 743 – Seminar in Music History
MUSC 744 – Topics in Music History
MUSC 745 – Music and Culture of Tudor England
MUSC 749 – Introduction to Ethnomusicology: History, Theory, Methods, and Education
MUSC 755 – Renaissance Music
MUSC 756 – Music of the Baroque
MUSC 757 – Music of the Classical Period
MUSC 758 – Romantic Music
MUSC 759 – Music Since 1900

Music Theory Courses

MUSC 712 – Analysis of Popular Music
MUSC 715 – Analysis and Performance
MUSC 718 – Public Music Theory
MUSC 719 – Survey of Analytical Techniques
MUSC 720 – Pedagogy of Music Theory
MUSC 721 – Tonality in the Twentieth Century
MUSC 723 – Music and Repetition
MUSC 724 – Style and Technique Since 1900
MUSC 726 – Topics in Music Theory
MUSC 727 – Schenkerian Analysis
MUSC 729 – Contrapuntal Techniques
MUSC 731 – Contemporary Experimental Music
MUSC 732 – Music & Modernism
MUSC 738 – Music Cognition
MUSC 739 – Transcription and Analysis

Academic Bulletin: <https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/graduate/music/music-performance-dma/>

School of Music Graduate Handbook:

https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/music/internal/current_students/gradhandbook.php