

University of South Carolina School of Music

**GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING A COMPOSITION OR RESEARCH PROSPECTUS**

The following guidelines should be followed when preparing a prospectus for a master's thesis/composition or for a doctoral dissertation, treatise, composition, or document. Not all of the information requested below will be relevant to each proposal.

**Procedure:**

After the appointment of the thesis/dissertation committee but before work has begun on the project, the candidate must prepare, with the help of the project's director, a prospectus for approval by the committee. Two typewritten copies of the prospectus are to be submitted to the Music Graduate Office. Once the prospectus is approved, a corrected copy is to be filed in that office not less than one semester before the degree is to be conferred.

**Title Page:**

The title page should follow the format given overleaf.

**Contents:**

*Composition* - Information about the proposed composition should include performance medium, duration, a brief description of the musical style, and any other pertinent information such as text and special formal considerations.

*Thesis, Dissertation, Treatise, Document* -

1. **Justification:** Explain the need for and the purpose of the study. Outline your own qualifications for carrying out the proposed study.
2. State briefly the proposed organization of the study. An outline of at least the chapter headings or their equivalents should be included.
3. **Methodology:** State briefly the procedures and methods to be followed.
4. **Expected Results and/or Conclusions** (if applicable, and if discernible at this stage)
5. **Sources and Materials:** Specify the needed sources and materials as well as their availability. This should include a basic bibliography, which should differentiate between primary (i.e., those used as the *direct object* of analysis, discussion, etc.) and secondary (i.e., those used for information pertaining to the subject) sources/materials.

University of South Carolina

School of Music

SOLO VIOLIN SONATAS BY GERMAN COMPOSERS

OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

A Document\* Prospectus

submitted by

John Lewis Smith

Candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Performance  
(Violin)\*\*

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Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major Professor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Document\* (if not major professor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member \*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Director, School of Music

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*Or "Composition," "Thesis," "Treatise," "Dissertation"

\*\*Give the appropriate degree (Master of Music, Master of Music Education, Doctor of Musical Arts, Doctor of Philosophy), the area (MM and DMA: performance, piano pedagogy, composition, conducting, music history, music theory; MME and Ph.D.: instrumental or vocal music), and, in conducting or performance, the major (choral conducting, piano, conducting, etc.).

\*\*\*Or, for a master's thesis/composition, "Reader."