GRADUATE STUDIES IN MUSIC THEORY
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Bringing together scholars and pedagogues with a variety of backgrounds, the Music Theory area at the University of Toronto is known for its strengths in Schenkerian analysis, musical form, theories of rhythm and meter, nineteenth-century music, and the music of the Second Viennese School. At the graduate level, the combination of scholarly excellence, the intimate scale of the program, and the close ties to Musicology and Ethnomusicology make for a vibrant, friendly, and intellectually engaging environment that attracts top-level students pursuing the course-intensive MA or the research-oriented PhD in music theory. Graduate students also benefit from the regular presence of guest speakers, be it at the biweekly colloquium series, graduate student roundtables, or special events such as the annual Form Forum.

All graduate students in music theory are supported by UofT’s generous standard funding package (currently $15,000 + domestic tuition expenses for the first year of the MA and for four years in the PhD), and our students’ track record for obtaining additional external scholarships is excellent. Furthermore, students receive ample opportunity to gain professional experience through teaching and research assistantships.

Faculty

Ryan McClelland (Associate Professor, PhD Indiana University)
Schenkerian analysis, rhythmic-metric theory, performance studies, late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century music, Johannes Brahms

Don McLean (Professor and Dean, PhD University of Toronto)
Schenkerian analysis, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century music, music in higher education, Alban Berg

Mark Sallmen (Senior Lecturer, PhD Eastman School of Music)
Post-tonal theory and analysis, music theory pedagogy, twentieth- and twenty-first-century music

Steven Vande Moortele (Assistant Professor, PhD University of Leuven)
Theory and analysis of musical form, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century music, Richard Wagner, Arnold Schoenberg
MA in Music Theory

Course Requirements
The two-year MA program in Music Theory requires 6.0 full-course equivalents (i.e., 12 one-semester courses) including Introduction to Music Research (MUS 1000H) in Year 1. A minimum of 6 of the 12 courses must be graduate courses in music theory; at least 4 of these must be graduate-only seminars (not cross-listed undergraduate courses). Up to 2 courses (1.0 FCE) may be taken outside of Musicology, Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory (either in the Graduate Department of Music or another Graduate Department). In the second year, students may choose to engage in independent Reading and Research (MUS 1998H) and/or write an MA Major Paper or Project (MUS 1990H).

Language Requirement
One language other than English is required. This will ordinarily be German, except by petition to the Division and the Graduate Department of Music. Students must attempt to fulfill the language requirement during the first year of the program.

PhD in Music Theory

Course Requirements
The four-year PhD program in Music Theory requires a minimum of 6 one-semester courses (3.0 full-course equivalents) including the PhD Seminar (MUS 1250H) in the first semester and Research in Music Theory (MUS 3997H) in the second and third semesters. Of the remaining 4 courses at least 2 must be graduate-only seminars in music theory (i.e., not cross-listed undergraduate courses). One course (0.5 FCE) may be taken outside of Musicology, Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory (either in the Graduate Department of Music or another Graduate Department). Students may be required to take additional courses or acquire other skills to meet the needs of their proposed subjects of study.

Music Theory courses offered 2014–15

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<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar in Schenkerian Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Analysis: Music from ca. 1850 to 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Tonal Techniques in Twentieth-Century Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music and Drama in Wagner’s Ring des Nibelungen</td>
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<td>The String Quartet in the Twentieth Century</td>
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Language Requirement

Students must demonstrate advanced reading knowledge of German. The requirement is to be satisfied by passing a written exam set by the Division and the Graduate Department of Music. With the permission of the Division and the Department, another language (other than English) may be substituted, provided that it is required in carrying out the approved research area. The Division and the Department may also require competence in additional languages deemed necessary for a proposed area of research. Language requirements must be completed successfully by the end of Year 2.

Comprehensive Exams

A set of three (written) comprehensive exams in (1) history of the field, (2) current issues in the field, and (3) repertoire/analysis must be taken at the beginning of Year 2.

Dissertation

Students must submit a dissertation proposal and pass a major-field exam by the end of Year 2. Students must prepare a dissertation under the direction of an advisor and a committee and will defend it at a Doctoral Final Oral Examination. The dissertation, including bibliography and appendices, should ideally be between 75,000 and 80,000 words in length (maximum: 100,000 words).

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