M.M. in Music Composition

Learning Outcomes

Basic Music Core Outcomes:

The graduate music student will be able to:

- Identify and analyze the elements of music in a given piece, and demonstrate an understanding of its compositional processes, aesthetic properties, and artistic, social, and historical context.

- Demonstrate basic music research techniques and knowledge of standard reference tools and bibliographic sources, including the use of online databases.

- Develop effective writing skills for use in program notes, liner notes, abstracts, essays, or research papers.

- Describe basic information about health and safety within the contexts of practice, performing, teaching, and listening; topics will include hearing, vocal, and musculoskeletal health and injury prevention.

Graduate Composition

The graduate student majoring in composition will:

- Compose consistently throughout the two years of the degree program and develop an individual compositional voice or style that reflects an awareness of prevalent musical styles and techniques of the 20th and 21st centuries. The student will have completed works that performed on the student composer concerts known as Composers Forum.

- Continue to develop and be able to demonstrate competency in essential methods of analysis that can be applied to music of the common practice period as well as music of the 20th and 21st centuries.

- Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of instrumentation and be able to apply this knowledge by writing for a variety of ensembles.

- Develop a fundamental knowledge of techniques used to create electro-acoustic and computer-generated music, and use these techniques to compose.

- Know select works of the last 100 years which are an important part of the development of new sonorities and techniques.