THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
BUTLER SCHOOL OF MUSIC  

SUGGESTED MINIMUM PROGRAM BEYOND THE BACCALAUREATE  
FOR THE Ph.D. IN MUSIC  

MUSIC THEORY  

In addition to requisite coursework, the principal requirements are the official advancement to candidacy, after the successful completion of qualifying doctoral examinations and examination in two foreign languages, and the writing and defense of a dissertation. For most students, the minimum number of hours for the Ph.D. will be 63; that number may vary up or down depending on coursework needed for the student's dissertation topic, on course substitutions for prior graduate training (usually in a MM or MA program), and on the number of semesters of enrollment after achieving candidacy.  

A typical program of study will include the following:  

3  MUS 388M  Topic 1: Foundations of Music Theory  
3  MUS 398T  Supervised Teaching in Music (Pedagogy of Music Theory)  
3  MUS 388M  Topic 4: Current Trends in Music Theory  
3  MUS 388M  Topic 5: Heinrich Schenker's Theory of Tonal Music  
3  MUS 385  Topic 2: History of Music Theory since 1750  
21  Seven graduate seminars, at least six of which must be seminars in theory and one of which must be a graduate seminar in musicology.  
21  Courses chosen from: (1) MUS 388M, Topic 3 (Contemporary Styles and Techniques), MUS 388S (Graduate Seminar in Theory), MUS 385, Topic 1 (History of Music Theory to 1750), MUS 380, 381J, 385, 385J (Graduate seminars in Musicology); (2) elective courses approved by the theory faculty; (3) independent study/directed reading. It is expected that course work outside music theory will relate to the topic of the student’s research.  

6  MUS 399R/W  Dissertation  

63 hours  

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT:  

Music theory doctoral students are required to pass two proficiency examinations in foreign languages. These languages should relate as closely as possible to the topic of the student’s research. Generally, reading knowledge in a language must be demonstrated by successfully completing an examination administered by the theory faculty. With the approval of the theory faculty, successful completion of a course in reading comprehension offered by a language department at the university may be substituted for the language examination. Where appropriate to the student’s research and with the approval of the Committee on Graduate Studies in Music, the student may substitute appropriate coursework in computer programming, statistics, or similar skills course for one foreign language requirement. Additional language study may be necessary depending on the focus of the student's research.
The first language requirement should ideally be fulfilled by the end of the second semester of residence. The second language requirement must be fulfilled before advancement to candidacy, and ideally by the end of the fourth semester of residence.