Graduate Music Program

The World Music Program offers degrees at both the master’s and doctoral levels. The MA in music has concentrations in scholarship (ethnomusicology/musicology), experimental music/composition, and performance. The PhD is in ethnomusicology only. Many musics are represented by faculty members through teaching and performing African American, Indonesian, West African, the Caribbean, East Asian, South Indian (Karnatak), Euro-American, and experimental music, and there are many opportunities for individual and ensemble study/performance.

Director of Graduate Studies in Music: David P. Nelson

Courses

Degree of Master of Arts
A total of 11 credits of coursework. Students are required to take MUSC510, four graduate seminars other than MUSC510 (two in the area of concentration), two performance courses, a course outside the department, a two-semester thesis tutorial (MUSC591/MUSC592), and four semesters of MUSC30.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
Satisfactory completion of courses totaling at least 12 credits. Students are required to take three core seminars (MUSC519, MUSC521, MUSC520/MUSC522), three elective graduate-level seminars other than the core seminars (two of which may be satisfied with appropriate courses already taken at the master’s level), two credits of performance (in different musics), one course outside the department, two credits of thesis tutorial (MUSC591/MUSC592), and four semesters of MUSC530.

Language Requirement

Degree of Master of Arts
One foreign language is required for the MA. All incoming students are required to take the language examination administered by the department at the beginning of their first term.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
Two foreign languages are required for the PhD: one field language and one research language. All incoming students are required to take the language examination administered by the department at the beginning of their first term.

Progress and Qualifying Exams

Qualification for the degree of doctor of philosophy. At the conclusion of the second year in residence, students take a qualifying examination consisting of a set of essays and a follow-up oral examination.

Thesis | Dissertation | Defense

- Thesis and defense. The thesis must constitute an archivable product displaying mastery of and an original contribution to the understanding of an aspect of world music. The MA thesis may follow various formats and modes of musical investigation, but performance per se does not constitute a thesis without substantial written ancillary materials. Work such as bibliographies, translations, and journals do not normally constitute theses. After completing all department requirements and acceptance of the thesis by the committee, the candidate is scheduled for an oral thesis defense administered by the committee.

- Dissertation and defense. The dissertation must constitute an archivable product displaying mastery of and an original contribution to the understanding of an aspect of world music. After completing all department requirements and acceptance of the dissertation by the committee, the candidate is scheduled for an oral dissertation defense administered by the committee.

Additional Information

For additional information, please visit the department website at wesleyan.edu/music/graduate. (http://wesleyan.edu/music/graduate)