MEMORANDUM

TO: Bonnie Thornton Dill  
   Dean, College of Arts and Humanities

FROM: Elizabeth Beise  
       Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Modify the Master of Arts in Music, Historical Musicology and Ethnomusicology Area of Concentration (PCC log no. 13058)

The proposal to modify the Master of Arts in Music, Historical Musicology and Ethnomusicology Area of Concentration has been administratively approved. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The change is effective Fall 2014. Please ensure that the change is fully described in the Graduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials.

MDC/
Enclosure

cc: Marilee Lindemann, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
    Barbara Gill, Office of Student Financial Aid  
    Reka Montfort, University Senate  
    Erin Howard, Division of Information Technology  
    Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment  
    Anne Turkos, University Archives  
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
    Alex Chen, Graduate School  
    Alene Moyer, College of Arts and Humanities  
    Robert Gibson, School of Music
College/School: ARHU
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01202700
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program: School of Music
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 1275701

Type of Action (choose one): Curriculum change

Summary of Proposed Action:

This proposal makes some minor revisions of the MA degree in Music History and Literature:

1) It replaces Seminar in Music Research (MUSC 648) with Introduction to Musicology (MUSC 646)
   a. It also makes this change for the Ph.D. in Musicology, MA/Ph.D. in Music Theory, and MA in Ethnomusicology

2) It creates a non-thesis option for the MA in Music History and Literature

3) It broadens the approved scope of electives allowed for the MA in Music History and Literature

No new resources are required for these changes, and none of the changes involve programs outside of the School of Music. One new course is proposed: Introduction to Musicology (MUSC 646)
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE
MA DEGREE IN MUSIC HISTORY AND LITERATURE (SCHOOL OF MUSIC)
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
BONNIE THORNTON DILL, Dean
Introduction
The School of Music, part of the College of Arts & Humanities, offers two types of master’s degrees:

- Master of Arts (MA) for academic students in Music History and Literature (Musicology), Ethnomusicology, Music Education, and Music Theory
- Master of Music (MM) for students in Composition, Conducting, Music Education, and Performance

Similarly, the School of Music offers two types of doctoral degrees:

- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) for academic students in Musicology, Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory
- Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) for students in Composition, Conducting, and Performance

The changes proposed here affect primarily the MA in Music History and Literature, although one of the proposed changes impacts other MA and Ph.D. degrees (there is no impact on MM or DMA degrees). Furthermore the changes proposed here have no impact on any degree outside of the School of Music, have no financial impact, and do not change the total credit hours required of any degree.
1) Replace the Seminar in Music Research (MUSC 648) with Introduction to Musicology (MUSC 646) for students seeking academic degrees at the MA and Ph.D. level (the MA in Music History and Literature (Musicology), Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory; and the Ph.D. in Musicology and Music Theory).

The current Seminar in Music Research (MUSC 648) is designed for all MA and MM School of Music students (except those seeking degrees in Music Education who have their own specialized course), and it is usually taken during the first semester of graduate coursework. All School of Music doctoral students—except those seeking degrees in Ethnomusicology—are also required to take the course. Many doctoral students, however, receive waivers for this requirement as they completed equivalent courses during their MA or MM degrees.

The introductory research needs for MA (academic) and MM (performance) students are quite different, however. All MM degrees offered by the School of Music are “non-thesis” degrees, and students seeking them use MUSC 648 to obtain basic research, writing, and citation skills, and to complete their scholarly research paper requirement (which replaces the traditional thesis). Students seeking academic (MA) degrees, however, are engaged in more advanced research. The musicology faculty, therefore, seek to establish a new, required course for MA Music History and Literature (Musicology) students (MUSC 646, Introduction to Musicology) that covers basic research skills in the first few weeks, and then moves on to more thoroughly survey the trends and methods of research used in the discipline. In recent years we have tried to mimic such a course by reserving one section of MUSC 648 for MA students. The creation of a new course would allow us to both formalize the distinction between the two courses and bring us more in line with our peer institutions, many of whom require an Introduction to Musicology course for those majoring in the discipline.

Given the relatively small number of musicology students, we are recommending that this change also be made for MA students in Ethnomusicology and Music Theory. Ph.D. students are currently required to take MUSC 648 (although most are waived out of it as they have already taken the course at the MA-level). We recommend that the change to Introduction to Musicology (MUSC 646) be made for them as well (with the same opportunity for waiver).

As the course will replace a section of the existing MUSC 648, there will be no financial implications for this change. The course proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Management System.

**PROPOSAL:** Replace MUSC 648 Seminar in Music Research with MUSC 646 Introduction to Musicology 3cr. Make a similar change for MA students in Ethnomusicology and Music Theory, and for Ph.D. students in Musicology and Music Theory.
2) Create a non-thesis option for the MA in Music History and Literature

The MA in Music History and Literature currently requires a thesis, prepared under six credit hours of MUSC 799. The faculty believe that the expanding scope of the field necessitates that MA students take an increased number and variety of seminars. A survey of our peer institutions reveals that many have adjusted to this new reality by creating a non-thesis driven MA degree.¹ We propose to create a non-thesis degree option that consists of a smaller-scale project modeled on requirements in the University’s English, History, and American Studies programs. Students, in consultation with their advisor, will select a paper written for a musicology seminar for major addition and revision. The result would be a substantial paper (of 30–50 pages), prepared according to the guidelines of a major academic journal, presented as part of the division’s colloquium series, and approved by a committee of three division faculty members. This option will be taken under three credits of 699 Selected Topics in Music with the student’s advisor during the final semester of coursework. Such a change would narrow the scope of the current thesis project and bring it more in line with the types of professional writing required of early-career musicologists. The remaining three credits of the current thesis requirement (MUSC 799) would be transferred to the major field requirement and taken as additional seminars in musicology. Students who wish to write a more traditional thesis (often of 80–100 pages) can continue to do so under the current requirements. This change requires no new resources.

PROPOSAL: Add a non-thesis option that replaces MUSC 799 Thesis Research (6cr.) with MUSC 699 Selected Topics in Music (3cr.) and an additional MUSC 6xx Seminar (3cr).

¹ The University of Illinois has both thesis and non-thesis options, the latter of which is similar to the program proposed here. Indiana University requires students to submit a portfolio of papers instead of a thesis. The University of North Carolina requires a revision of a seminar paper similar to that proposed here. These are three of our top competitors.
3) Broaden the scope of approved electives for the MA in Music History and Literature to allow for one course from outside the School of Music

The current requirements include nine credit hours of 4xx/6xx electives, which must be taken inside the School of Music. The musicology faculty believe that students engaged in research areas that would benefit from a deeper knowledge of outside disciplines should be encouraged to take appropriate courses (and receive credit for such courses). We thus propose that students be allowed to take three of the nine elective credits outside of the School of Music (chosen in consultation with the advisor). This change requires no new financial resources.

PROPOSAL: Change the School of Music Graduate Handbook heading “OTHER STUDIES IN MUSIC,” to “OTHER STUDIES” and add the provision: “With the permission of the advisor, up to three of these credits may be taken outside of the School of Music.”

Conclusions

If approved, the changes outlined above will be in place for students entering in the fall of 2014, but not available to students who entered before that time.
Summary of Changes for the MA in Music History and Literature

Changes appear in *italics*

The MUSC 648/646 change will be made to all appropriate MA and Ph.D. degrees

### Current Requirements

**MAJOR STUDIES IN MUSIC (12cr.)**
- Thesis Requirement
  - MUSC 6xx (2 seminars) 6cr.
  - MUSC 799 Thesis Research 6cr.

**SUPPORTING AREAS (9cr.)**
- MUSC 642 Early Music Notation 3cr.
- MUSC 648 Seminar in Music Research 3cr.
- MUSC 6xx (Ethnomusicology course) 3cr.

**OTHER STUDIES IN MUSIC (9cr.)**
- MUED/MUSC/MUSP 4xx/6xx (3 courses) 9cr.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**
- Reading knowledge of one foreign language
- School of Music Qualifying Examinations
- Divisional Qualifying Examinations
- Thesis

### Proposed Requirements

**MAJOR STUDIES IN MUSIC (12cr.)**
- Thesis Option
  - MUSC 6xx (2 seminars) 6cr.
  - MUSC 799 Thesis Research 6cr.

- Non-Thesis Option
  - MUSC 6xx (3 seminars) 9cr.
  - MUSC 699 Selected Topics 3cr.

**SUPPORTING AREAS (9cr.)**
- MUSC 642 Early Music Notation 3cr.
- MUSC 646 Introduction to Musicology 3cr.
- MUSC 6xx (Ethnomusicology course) 3cr.

**OTHER STUDIES (9cr.)**
- MUED/MUSC/MUSP 4xx/6xx (3 courses) 9cr.

*With the permission of the advisor, up to three of these credits may be taken outside of the School of Music*

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**
- Reading knowledge of one foreign language
- School of Music Qualifying Examinations
- Divisional Qualifying Examinations
- Thesis or Non-thesis Project
Typical two-year plan for the non-thesis option

Semester 1
MUSC 646 Introduction to Musicology 3cr.
MUSC 6xx Seminar 3cr.
MUSC 4xx/6xx Other Studies 3cr.

Semester 2
MUSC 6xx Seminar 3cr.
MUSC 642 Early Music Notation 3cr.
MUSC 6xx Ethnomusicology course 3cr.

Semester 3
MUSC 6xx Seminar 3cr.
MUSC 4xx/6xx Other Studies 3cr.
Optional Course

Semester 4
MUSC 699 Sel. Topics: Final Paper 3cr.
MUSC 4xx/6xx Other Studies 3cr.
Optional Course