

**School of Music Graduate Advising Worksheet 2023-24**  
**Master of Arts in Musicology**Student name \_\_\_\_\_  
Applied teacher \_\_\_\_\_BU ID \_\_\_\_\_  
Program start date (e.g., Fall 2023) \_\_\_\_\_

Students must earn a **minimum** of 32 course credits with grades no lower than B- in graduate-level coursework per the [Bulletin](#) (see [Bulletin archives](#) for pre-Fall 2023 curriculum). Refer to the [Graduate Student Handbook](#) for the full complement of policies and procedures, including the following general notes:

- If MT 401 theory review and/or MH 401 history review (2 credits ea.) are required per the proficiency entrance exam (if recommended by the student's faculty advisor) these courses do not count towards the degree and must be passed with at least a B- before a student can take graduate coursework in these areas
- Students must register for 7 credits minimum to a maximum of 11.5 credits per semester for full-time status
- All students **MUST apply to graduate** before their final semester of study, complete all degree program requirements, and earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 to be awarded a degree per [CFA Graduation Policy](#).
- Useful resources: [Graduate Student Advising Tools](#) and [Resources](#); and Professor Jason Yust, Director of Graduate Studies, [jyust@bu.edu](mailto:jyust@bu.edu)

**Degree Requirements:****Historical Musicology** CFA MH 720 Proseminar in Musicology and Ethnomusicology (taken in first semester)

There are no specific course requirements for the MA specializing in Historical Musicology other than CFA MH 720, but students should customize their program in consultation with their advisor. A general guide for the distribution of remaining courses can be found on the [department website](#).

**Ethnomusicology** CFA MH 720 Proseminar in Musicology and Ethnomusicology (taken in first semester) CFA MH 436 Musical Cultures of the World, either as auditor or teaching fellow CFA MH 860 Research Methods in Ethnomusicology CFA MH 861 Contemplating Ethnomusicology 4 credits in CFA MH 799 Master's Thesis At least two semesters of CFA MH 561 World Music Ensemble, either as student, auditor, or instructor 16 credits of approved electives from areas such as anthropology, musicology, music education, history, or specific area studies (courses must be 500-level or higher)**Additional requirements:** **Language Requirement:** all students pursuing an MA in Musicology are required to demonstrate graduate-level reading proficiency in a foreign language prior to completion of the degree. Language proficiency can be demonstrated through either a language examination or successful completion of a non-credit graduate-level foreign language reading course offered by Boston University (GRS classes) **Comprehensive Exams:** MA candidates in the historical musicology specialization must pass a Comprehensive Exam. This exam should be taken during the second year and no later than the beginning of the fourth semester of coursework. The one-half hour oral exam will consist of short answers to questions about some fundamental areas of scholarship, the work of some of the main scholars in the field, and landmark repertoires and genres. MA candidates in the ethnomusicology specialization must pass a Comprehensive Exam. This exam should be taken during the second year and no later than the beginning of the fourth semester of coursework. The one-half hour oral exam will consist of questions about the theory, history, and practice of ethnomusicology. Candidates must display a general knowledge of the field and its history. **Master's Thesis:** Following the successful completion of the departmental comprehensive examination, students must undertake a thesis that represents a contribution to some aspect of musical knowledge. A thesis proposal, prepared in consultation with the faculty advisor, must be approved by a committee of three members, including two Musicology/Ethnomusicology faculty, one of whom should be the advisor. Students should begin to discuss and formulate a topic with their advisor by the end of their second semester.