

School of Music Graduate Advising Worksheet 2026-2027
Doctor of Musical Arts in Historical Performance – Dissertation Track

Student name _____

BU ID _____

Academic Advisor _____

Program start date (e.g., Fall 2026) _____

REQUIREMENTS:

Students must earn a **minimum** of 48 course units with grades no lower than B- in graduate-level coursework per the [Bulletin](#) (see [Bulletin archives](#) for pre-Fall 2026 curriculum) and are expected to [declare either Dissertation or Recital Track](#) by the beginning of the second year of study. Refer to the [Graduate Student Handbook](#) for the full complement of policies and procedures.

- 18 units of applied lessons, taken over 6 semesters of study. Students must register for hour-long lessons (CFA ML 5xx odd-numbered courses)
- If a student is required, per the results of the [proficiency entrance exams](#) in theory and musicology, to take MT 401 and/or MH 401 review courses (2 units each), they must take the course(s) their first semester and pass them with at least a B- before advancing to graduate work in these areas. These review courses do not count for graduate academic units
- 3 units in music theory courses, MT 600-level or above (for example, MT 601 or 602)
- 6 units in musicology courses, MH 600-level or above
- CFA MT 701 Doctoral Proseminar: Skills (3 units) – Typically taken in Fall of second year
- CFA MT 702 Doctoral Proseminar: Analysis (3 units) – Typically taken in Spring of second year
- CFA MU 995 Dissertation (3 units)
- 12 units of electives:
 - Students can choose from grad courses (500 level and above) with SoM prefixes MU, ME, MP, MH, MT
 - MP 609 Baroque chamber music will count towards elective units, as will additional graduate courses in MT and MH taken beyond the required units
 - MET graduate classes in Arts Administration will satisfy elective units
 - Applied lessons may be taken for up to 4 units per semester instead of 3. Any additional lesson units(s) beyond the required 18 would satisfy elective units, but no more than 5 units of extra applied lessons may be applied towards electives. Students must submit a [course substitution form](#) to request use of additional lesson units for elective units
- Students must register for 7 units minimum to a maximum of 11.5 units per semester for full-time status
- Students are expected to register for classes on [published dates](#) and must register for classes each semester through graduation unless taking an approved [leave of absence](#)
- Refer to the [Bulletin](#) for recital requirements and [qualifying exams](#)
- Reading proficiency is required in one language, chosen from German, French, and Italian. Students may demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language by passing its corresponding reading course at the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences: [CAS LG 621](#), [CAS LF 621](#), or [CAS LI 621](#). Students may also satisfy the requirement by passing a foreign language examination, administered once each semester by the School of Music
- After a student has finished coursework, MU 995, and is completing their dissertation, qualifying exams and/or recitals, they must register for continuing studies MU 996 each semester through graduation, regardless if they are also taking applied lessons
- 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 [Music Student Resources](#); [Performance Studies/Applied Music Handbook](#); and Professor Andrew Goodrich, Director of Graduate Studies, andrewg@bu.edu

See reverse for a comprehensive checklist.

Student name _____

BU ID _____

Academic Advisor _____

Program start date (e.g., Fall 2026) _____

DOCTOR of MUSICAL ARTS, Historical Performance - Dissertation Track

	Semester	Grade	Units
Applied Lessons, ML 5xx (18 units)			
MT 401 and/or MH 401, if required (2 units each) – Fall Year 1			(no graduate units)
MT 701 Doctoral Pro-Seminar: Skills (3 units) – Fall Year 2			
MT 702 Doctoral Pro-Seminar: Analysis (3 units) – Spring Year 2			
Course in Musicology (MH), 600 level or higher (3 units)			
Course in Musicology (MH), 600 level or higher (3 units)			
Course in Music Theory (MT), 600 level or higher (3 units)			
MU 995 Dissertation (3 units)			
Language requirement (exam or zero-unit course)			
Graduate Music Electives (12 units)			

Total units (minimum of 48): _____**Recitals**

Solo #1 _____

Solo #2 _____

Chamber _____

Dissertation Presentation _____

Language requirement

(course or exam) _____

Graduation application submitted _____

Qualifying Examinations

Theory Tonal _____

Theory Post-Tonal _____

Theory Skills _____

Theory Chorale _____

Musicology _____

Major Field _____

Oral Exam _____