

PhD in Music (Musicology, Music Theory, and Composition)

Recommended timeline for the Dissertation Proposal Development milestone

Term 3 (Summer of Year 1)	<p>At the end of Term 2 or beginning of Term 3, the student meets with the PhD Advisory Committee disciplinary members (with the third committee member welcome to attend) to brainstorm about directions for dissertation research, literature for review, writing strategies, potential dissertation supervisors, etc. The Advisory Committee members will request some type of “deliverable” at the end of Term 3, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An annotated bibliography with potential research questions• A preliminary outline for a dissertation for discussion only at this time
Term 4 (Fall of Year 2)	<p>The student meets with the disciplinary members of the PhD Advisory Committee (with the third member welcome to attend) to discuss the work prepared by the student in Term 3, and to give direction for continued research. Such direction may include refinement of potential research questions already identified or expansion of an annotated bibliography or other activities that indicate the shaping of a dissertation topic.</p> <p>A potential dissertation supervisor and second reader should be identified during this term.</p>
Terms 5-6 (Winter-Summer of Year 2)	<p>The student communicates with the disciplinary members of the PhD Advisory Committee and potential dissertation supervisor if that person is not on the PhD Advisory Committee about progress in the milestone with a plan for completing the dissertation proposal in Term 7 or 8.</p> <p>By the end of Term 6, the dissertation supervisor should be formally identified.</p> <p>Note that the Comprehensive Examination is normally completed in Term 6.</p>
Terms 7-8 (Fall-Winter of Year 3)	<p>The student works with dissertation supervisor to complete a draft proposal for review by the second reader.</p> <p>The student should aim to complete the draft proposal by Term 7, first term of Year 3.</p> <p>Approval of the proposal by the supervisor and second reader of the draft proposal marks completion of the milestone. (Proposal defense will follow.)</p>