# Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition
## Degree Requirements List for Catalogue Year 2019-2020

### Requirement | Units
--- | ---
**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS (MGEEs) – 0 units**
Pass each examination or corresponding review course  
- Aural Skills (or MUCO 333 - 1 unit)  
- Theory/Analysis (or MUCO 300 - 1 unit)  
- Choral Conducting (MUCD 340 - 2 units)  
- Instrumental Conducting (MUCD 343 - 2 units)  
- Orchestration (MUCO 339 - 1 unit)  
- Counterpoint (review as approved by faculty)  

*NOTE: Review courses will not count toward the 65 total units required for degree completion.*

### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT – 0 units
Pass examination or corresponding reading course  
- Select from French, German, Italian, or Spanish

*NOTE: Reading courses will not count toward the 65 total units required for degree completion.*

### RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT – 0 units
At least two consecutive semesters (not summers) of 6 units or more must be completed in residence.

### GRADUATE COMMITTEE INTERVIEW – 0 units
Generally held during the second semester in residence

### BASIC DMA CURRICULUM – 20 units
- Analysis (MUCO): 501 (tonal) and 502 (post-tonal)  
  4  
- Conducting (MUCD): 441 (choral) and 443 (instrumental)  
  4  
- Music Teaching and Learning (MTAL): 505 (teaching and learning)  
  2  
- Music History (MUHL): 570 and three 500-level electives  
  8  
- Ensemble: 2 units (1-1)  
  2

### MAJOR FIELD (MUCO) – 20 units (minimum grade = B)
- Advanced Orchestration I: 536 (2)  
  2  
- Advanced Orchestration II: 636 (2)  
  2  
- Selected topics seminar: 592 (2-2)  
  4  
- Advanced Composition II: 637 (2-2)  
  4  
- Advanced Composition III: 737 (2-2)  
  4  
- “Six Pieces” presentation as part of the Comprehensive Exams  
  0  
- Dissertation: 794ab (2-2)  
  4

### ACADEMIC FIELD – 8-12 units
- Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty  
  8-12
- Comprehensive Examination  
  0

### ELECTIVE FIELD #1 – 6-8 units
- Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty  
  6-8
- Comprehensive Examination  
  0

### ELECTIVE FIELD #2 – 6-8 units
- Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty  
  6-8
- Comprehensive Examination  
  0

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS – 0 units
- Admission to Candidacy (after all Comprehensive Examinations are passed)  
- Recital  
- Dissertation

### TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED | 65
--- | ---
Of the total 65 units required, 30 may be transferred from a Master’s degree, per approval by USC and the appropriate faculty.

**Important Note:** This requirements list is designed to facilitate the process of planning toward degree completion. All information included here is subject to change. The USC Catalogue ([catalogue.usc.edu](catalogue.usc.edu)) for the appropriate academic year is the sole and authoritative source of actual curricular requirements for all USC Thornton programs.