

**Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Teaching and Learning  
Degree Requirements List for Catalogue Year 2025-2026**

Requirement	Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS (MGEEs) – 0 units</b>		
<i>Pass each examination or corresponding review course</i>		
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)	—	
<i>NOTE: Review courses will not count toward the 65 total units required for degree completion.</i>		
<b>LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT – 0 units</b>		
<i>Pass examination, meet prior requirements, or take corresponding reading course</i>		
Select from French, German, Italian, Spanish, or other pre-approved language	—	
<i>NOTE: Reading courses will not count toward the 65 total units required for degree completion.</i>		
<b>RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT – 0 units</b>		
<i>At least two consecutive semesters (not summers) of 6 units or more must be completed in residence.</i>		
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<b>GRADUATE COMMITTEE INTERVIEW – 0 units</b>		
<i>Generally held during the second semester in residence</i>		
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<b>BASIC DMA CURRICULUM – 18 units</b>		
Analysis (MUCO): 501 (tonal) and 502 (post-tonal)	4	
Conducting (MUCD): 441 (choral) and 443 (instrumental)	4	
Collegiate Teaching (MTAL): 652* (teaching and learning)	2	
Music History (MUHL): Three 500-level electives	6	
Ensemble: 2 units (1-1)	2	
<b>MAJOR FIELD (MUED) – 30 units (minimum grade = B)</b>		
Research Foundations: 500 (This replaces MUHL 570 required by other majors.)	3	
Sociological Foundations of Music Teaching and Learning: 502	3	
Philosophical and Advocacy Issues in MTAL: 503	3	
Alternative Models in MTAL: 607	2	
Assessment and Reflective Practice: 615	2	
Choose 6 elective units from within the MTAL department.	6	
Quantitative Research in MTAL: 720	3	
Qualitative Research in MTAL: 721	3	
Research: MTAL 790	1	
Dissertation MTAL794ab (2-2) & continue as needed until completion	4	
Comprehensive Examination Papers/Projects	0	
<b>ACADEMIC FIELD – 8-12 units</b>		
<i>Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty</i>	8-12	
Comprehensive Examination	0	
<b>ELECTIVE FIELD #1 – 6-8 units</b>		
<i>Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty</i>	6-8	
Comprehensive Examination	0	
<b>ELECTIVE FIELD #2 – 6-8 units</b>		
<i>Coursework to be arranged with appropriate faculty</i>	6-8	
Comprehensive Examination	0	
<b>ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS – 0 units</b>		
Admission to Candidacy (after all Comprehensive Examinations are passed)	—	
Dissertation	—	
<b>TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>65</b>	
<i>Of the total 65 units required, 30 may be transferred from a Master's degree, per approval by USC and the appropriate faculty.</i>		

*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](http://catalogue.usc.edu)) for the appropriate academic year is the sole and authoritative source of actual curricular requirements for all USC Thornton programs.*