Masters of Music in Performance –Harp, Viola, Violin, Violoncello
2026 Catalogue Year

Requirements	Units	Progress Record (☑ when completed)
MUSIC ENSEMBLE (MUEN) – 8 units		
520 USC Symphony	4	__(1) __(1) __(1) __(1)
527 String Chamber Music	4	__(1) __(1) __(1) __(1)
MUSIC HISTORY (MUHL) – 4 units		
570 Research Materials and Techniques	2	__
5xx 500-level music history courses	2	__
STRINGS (MPST) – 8 units		
553 Individual Instruction	8	__(2) __(2) __(2) __(2)
CONDUCTING (MUCD) – 2 units		
443 Instrumental Conducting II	2	__
MUSIC ELECTIVES – 8 units		
400 or 500-level music courses	8	__
NON-COURSE REQUIREMENTS		
One graduate recital*	0	__
Comprehensive Review	0	__
Total Units:	**30****	

* Your required recital may not be performed until the semester after all entrance exam requirements have been met, whether that involves passing all exams, successfully completing review courses, or any combination thereof. In order to receive degree progress credit for your recital, you must make sure that Thornton Student Affairs receives a signed recital report card along with a copy of the recital program. Check with your Department Coordinator for more specifics on this and the approval process. To begin scheduling a recital, see Music Operations.

** Entrance exams and their corresponding review courses for this degree program are as follows:

Aural Skills (MUCO 333-1 unit)	___
Theory/Analysis (MUCO 300-1 unit)	___
Instrumental Conducting (MUCD 343-2 units)	___
Orchestration (MUCO 339-1 unit)	___

If a student does not pass the entrance exams in these areas, they must take the appropriate review courses during the first two semesters of the program. As these courses are at the 300-level (e.g., MUCO 333), they are not considered graduate courses and cannot be used to fulfill elective credit toward the M.M. Therefore, they will add units to the total number of units you will need to take to complete your degree.

Students who hold a Bachelor of Music or a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Thornton School of Music are exempt from any examinations in fields in which they have taken comparable coursework.

Time to Degree
The degree is set up so that a student can earn the M.M. in 4 semesters at 8 units each semester, for a total of 32 units. Because the degree only requires 30 units, this allows for 2 units of review courses to be taken within these 4 full-time semesters. If a student passes all of the required entrance exams, they may obtain the degree with only 30 units, and will not be required to be at 8 units all four semesters. If, however, a student has to take more than 2 units of review courses, they will need to register for more than 8 units during one or more of the four semesters.

Your advisor is:
Yesenia Nava
(213) 740-4721
ynava@usc.edu