

Disclaimer : this document is provisional and is currently under review, and therefore is subject ¹

[Andrea Creech](#) (Performance Psychology, Performance Strategies, Expertise and Talent Development, Music for Health and Wellbeing, Community Practices, Music Pedagogy)

Resources and Opportunities

Students benefit from:

- An environment of musical excellence and international and multidisciplinary collaboration with composers, performers, educators, and researchers.
- A supportive team environment offering a range of mentoring opportunities
- Career simulation opportunities such as presenting at conferences, engaging with international networks, teaching assistantships, etc.
- Access to learning and collaboration opportunities within performance and research departments, and Faculties of Medicine, Cognitive Psychology, Kinesiology, Physiology, and Education, Teaching and Learning, among others;
- State of the art technology and facilities for studying performance and modeling best practices.

Careers

Graduates will be equipped with advance knowledge and skills to pursuit, develop or sustain successful careers in academic, research and industry-based settings. They can also become leaders in their communities by using music for social transformation (i.e., music programs for senior citizens, students with special needs, in developing countries, etc.), and by applying research-informed strategies for healthy, sustainable, and optimal music making in a range of settings.

- Get your supporting materials together. Please apply by December 1st and upload your documents by December 15th. Documents are uploaded after you file your application.
- If this is your first time using On# (McGill's online application form), create an account. You will be given a username and password for future use.
- Complete the admission application HERE. During this stage, provide the names and valid institutional email addresses of the people providing your letters of recommendation. McGill will contact them directly. Submit your information.
- Pay the non-Tw 7.abfact 2

- First round scholarship offers are typically made within three weeks of receiving an

Program

For more details consult the information [here](#).

Comprehensive Exams

Comprehensive exams are taken in November or May of Ph.D. 3.

The purpose of comprehensive examinations is to determine whether the student demonstrates the necessary research knowledge and skills to continue in the Ph.D. program. The comprehensive examination must be completed by the end of the second year (i.e., prior to entering Ph.D.4). The comprehensive examination will have two components, written and oral. Students must pass both components.

Deadlines

- End of your first year (Ph.D.2): Finalize dissertation field with your supervisor.
- May 1 (Summer Ph.D.2) or November 1 (Fall Ph.D.3): Notify graduatestudies.music@mcgill.ca of your intent to take the exams.
- ~~Still~~ you submit your intent to take the exams, develop a comprehensive dissertation (t)11.e(ap)]TJ bibliography in consultation with committee members to be finalized and submitted to the committee up to five months before the written exam date.
- After the commiÜ úÉÁ ... 26A'.öFijnfb & bÅ-jfr iæ& & wÆEn%o~.&fhCeâ¶iê@ %oêúÉÀ †BhNp1i»ÜxA

background elements (i.e., related literature) of the Ph.D. dissertation proposal and thesis.

- The exam is written over a three-month period, from the start of the semester. Anticipated length for each question is 5-20 pages (typed, double-spaced, Arial 11pt); total: 40-60 pages (not including References).

Oral Exam

- Duration: 90-120 minutes.
- Structure:

Part 1: 30 minute public lecture presenting an overview of the main dissertation topic, followed by 30 minutes of questions by the committee and public.

Part 2: 30-60 minutes of questions on the written exam in private session with the exam committee.

- Timeline: Typically takes place two to four weeks after the written examination.
- Scope: Opportunity to elaborate, correct and enhance essay answers through questions posed by the committee. Other questions based on related topics may assess breadth of domain-specific knowledge.

Preparation

Begin preparing as early as possible and ensure you take opportunities to:

- Discuss your questions and literature review plan at regular meetings with supervisors
- Prepare and defend mock questions
- Collaborate with other doctoral students who have completed, or are preparing for, their comprehensives.

Committee

The Examination Committee consists of:

- Two full-time staff members from the candidate's area of specialization
- One member from a different area within the Department or McGill as relevant to the thesis research area
- The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in Music, or an appointed representative, serves as Chair.

Resources

- Williamon, A., Ginsborg, J., Perkins, R., & Waddell, G. (2021). *Performing music research: Methods in music education, psychology, and performance science*. Oxford University Press.
- McPherson, G. (Ed.). (2022). *The Oxford Handbook of Music Performance, Volume 1 and 2*. Oxford University Press.

meeting, objectives for the following year should be recorded in the OBJECTIVES box on page 1 of the same form. This Form may also be supplemented with Unit-specific details or documents (see page 2). At the same time, the Letter of Understanding and the Study Plan can be reviewed and if needed, updated and submitted. The progress report and, if applicable, reviewed Letter of Understanding and Study Plan must be uploaded to myProgress. The student is responsible for setting up the meeting no later than July 15th each year. Please see the [Regulations on Graduate Student Research Progress Tracking](#) for more information on unsatisfactory reports and required signatures.

Graduate Progress Report Guidelines, Graduate Student Progress Tracking Report and Audit Forms can 6 (i)2.6g -0.002 05 12.8 (i)

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification of intention to take comprehensive exam in May (November 1) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By June 15: Progress report |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thesis Proposal (for those who completed | | |

Ph.D.4

Each of the following criteria are ranked on the following scale, Excellent, Very Good, Good, Satisfactory, Fail.

1. Evidence of originality and creativity;
2. Resourcefulness, alertness to significance of findings;
3. Diligence, care, technical skill in the research;
4. Usefulness of the results to other workers in the field; value as a contribution to knowledge;
5. Grasp of subject, powers of criticism and general adequacy in review of previous work;
6. Quality of presentation (coherence, lucidity, grammar, style, freedom from typographical errors).

Thesis Submission Timeline

| Initial submission | Thesis evaluation semester | Final submission deadline | Graduation date |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| December 15 | Winter | April 15 | May/June |
| April 15 | Summer | August 15 | Fall (October, November) |
| August 15 | Fall | December 15 | Winter (no convocation) |

NOTE: Should the deadline date (Aug 15, Dec 15, Apr 15) fall on a weekend or a holiday, the effective deadline date will be the next working day.

- Doctoral students can access myThesis through the GPS website. Detailed guidelines and an instructional video are available on this page.
- Verify MyProgress to ensure that all components of the program are complete or components of the program are marked as “Complete” or “In Progress”.

Day of submission:

Submit your thesis through the submission page on myThesis on the date submitted in your “Intent to Submit Thesis” form. Your supervisor(s) and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in Music will be advised of your submission, and they will be asked to approve it.

Final Submission Steps

- Review the examiner's comments with your supervisor and make revisions if required. Consult the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) and the GPS website if the thesis has not been passed.
- Submit online as per instructions by the date in the above table.
- Notify your supervisor(s) that this has been completed. Your supervisor will review and issue the final confirmation.
- Check out the convocation website for further details, and prepare to celebrate!

Other Resources

Tools for writing and research