GRADUATE MA/MS WRITTEN EXIT EXAMINATION INFORMATION

1. The Graduate Written Exit Exam is offered twice a year.

2. Notify the GRADUATE COORDINATOR and your ADVISOR in writing of your intent to take the Graduate Written Exit Exam at least one term in advance. An email with reply will be sufficient for written notification.

3. SIGN UP for the Exit Exam by contacting the Graduate Music Coordinator or the Music Office (LH 231)

4. Be advised that you MUST be enrolled for at least one credit DURING the term in which you take the Exit Exam.

5. Make sure that you have submitted the *Application for the Awarding of the Master's or Doctoral Degree* to the Office of Graduate Studies no later than Friday during the first week of the term you intend to graduate.

6. Prepare carefully; you are allowed just two opportunities to pass.

7. If you have any questions, contact your advisor or the Graduate Coordinator.

8. You may use a piano during the arranging portion of the exam. You are not allowed to use notes at any time, and may not discuss the exam with anyone until after it has been turned in.

Details about the Graduate Exit Exam

The PEDAGOGY/METHODS questions pertain to your area. Prepare by reviewing class notes and studying other pertinent materials in your area, organizing outlines, and writing essays within the ninety-minute time period allotted.

The MUSIC HISTORY/LITERATURE portion will include questions related to your coursework. Review notes from your history and literature classes and contact professors of those courses for information about the format of the questions.

The ARRANGING question will be either in the instrumental or choral area, depending on which course you have taken in your program. Prepare for this part of the exam by writing sixteen-measure (or longer) arrangements of short pieces such as folk tunes, segments of piano pieces or other simple works. In practicing, limit yourself to ninety minutes.

(continued on reverse)
There will be six SCORE IDENTIFICATION examples to identify, three from your major area and three from general music periods and genre. Keep in mind the following general guidelines while preparing for this part of the exam.

- What formal, harmonic, melodic, rhythmic or textural characteristics indicate the style period or country of origin?
- What is the genre of the work (symphony, band, chamber ensemble, opera, oratorio, chorus)?
- Who is the possible composer? Title? Date?
- IT IS VITALY IMPORTANT TO WRITE ABOUT THESE ASPECTS OF THE WORK EVEN IF YOU RECOGNIZE THE WORK AND COMPOSER! Make note of the obvious—do not take certain basic characteristics of a score for granted and forget to mention them!
- Practice looking at many scores and answering these questions in writing. Review the Grout, Norton, and Burkhardt Anthologies.
- Limit yourself to 15 minutes per score.
- In the Exam, you may write either directly on the scores or on a separate sheet of paper.

Those taking the Graduate Exit Exam will meet in the hall outside the Music Office (LH 231) no later than 9:00 am on the scheduled day. A monitor will meet you and help you get situated to begin the exam. Students should bring plenty of pencils with erasers. The monitor will help them keep track of time for each portion of the exam.

**Examination Schedule**

9:00am  Report to the Music Office, LH231

9:10am-10:40am  I. Pedagogy/Methods

*Five-Minute Break*

10:45am-12:15pm  II. Music History/Literature

*Forty-Minute Lunch Break*

12:55pm-2:25pm  III. Score Identification

*Five-Minute Break*

2:30pm-4:00pm  IV. Arranging

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