

Research Stream

The research stream provides training for students in the in the fields of music theory, music history, ethnomusicology, or Chinese music. Through coursework and in particular the capstone project of the final year, students will pursue independent research and writing projects. This stream is designed especially for students who intend to go on to pursue postgraduate studies, and also for those who will become music teachers in primary or secondary schools.

In addition to the general requirements of the BA in Music, students complete 10 units of required courses. These include Research Methods in Music (2 units) and Senior Thesis I and II (6 units). In addition to the required courses, students are encouraged to choose elective courses in consultation with the research stream coordinator as well as their academic advisor.

Senior Thesis projects may explore any aspect of research in music theory, music history, ethnomusicology, or Chinese music. Topics are expected to demonstrate original thinking, understanding of the relevant literature, critical awareness, and employment of a suitable methodology. The thesis should be unified by the pursuit of a focused argument, supported by analysis and evidence.

The prerequisites for the Research Stream are as follows:

- (1) a minimum grade of B+ in the second-year required course which is most relevant to the student's area of research interest – Theory, Music History, or Ethnomusicology/Chinese Music (MUSC2252, 2262, 2872, 2882, 2552, 2562), OR approval of the stream coordinator;
- (2) a personal statement of 200-300 words;
- (3) a writing sample.