

About the Graduate Diagnostic Exam in Music Theory (6/15/16)

from the CCM Graduate Student Handbook

(online at CCM > Resources > Student Resources)

for all questions about your graduate student program, consult the Handbook, first.

Music Theory, Analysis, and Aural Skills

The diagnostic examination in music theory is required of all new master's students, and of doctoral students who did not earn the Master of Music degree at CCM. The purpose of this examination is to place students into an appropriate section of Graduate Theory and Analysis, a course sequence required of master's students, or into a section of Graduate Theory Review, for either one or two semesters, for remedial purposes, without degree credit. The examination consists entirely of multiple-choice questions that cover various aspects of tonal theory: harmony, part writing, voice leading and analysis. As recommended preparation, students should review relevant topics in a current college-level harmony textbook such as *Harmony in Context*, Roig-Francolí (the text adopted by CCM); *Harmony and Voice Leading*, Aldwell, Schachter; *Harmonic Practice in Tonal Music*, Gauldin; *The Complete Musician*, Laitz; *Tonal Harmony*, Kostka, Payne. While there is no aural skills section on the diagnostic examination, students are strongly encouraged to develop their aural skills using *MacGAMUT* (scales, intervals, chords, melodic dictation), Blombach.