

Procedures—Senior Thesis (BA in Music)

For the student:

Step 1

Identify area of scholarly inquiry that takes into consideration your personal goals, interests, academic strengths, and related challenges. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, Music Theory, Music History, and Music Literature for a specific instrument or ensemble. The intent is to prepare a scholarly paper and presentation as the culmination of a semester's work. Work done in other classes cannot be included, though it may serve as the backdrop against which new research is undertaken. Details are provided in the syllabus for the course.

Step 2

Discuss your ideas with faculty members, including your advisor and members of the faculty who may also be interested in the topic. If you need advice on whom to contact, talk with your Department Chair.

Step 3

Complete the application form and submit to your Departmental Office according to the following schedule:

- November 15 if your thesis is to be completed in the following Spring semester
- April 15 if your thesis is to be completed in the following Summer or Fall semesters

The Senior Thesis Committee will review the proposal and decide its merit. Should the committee approve the proposal, it will recommend a faculty mentor to the Dean.

Step 4

After receiving notice from the Committee, register for MUSA-498, Senior Thesis for the appropriate semester. Consult syllabus for additional details about the course. You will be notified of the name of your faculty mentor and the meeting time for the course. In consultation with your faculty mentor, schedule a public presentation for your thesis with the Director of Music Events.

APPLICATION – SENIOR THESIS

B.A. IN MUSIC

NAME: Click here to enter text.

STUDENT ID:Click here to enter text.

PROJECTED GRADUATION DATE: Click here to enter text.

EMAIL:Click here to enter text.

SEMESTER AND YEAR OF THESIS: Click here to enter text.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR: Click here to enter text.

PROPOSED TOPIC: Click here to enter text.

DESCRIPTON OF PROJECT:

Click here to enter text.

Attach an annotated bibliography of at least 10 relevant sources to this application.

(Office Use Only)

Date application received _____ Date Considered by Committee _____

Recommendation Approved Not Approved Mentor _____

Comments:

Signatures of Committee Members:

MUSA – 498
Senior Paper

TEXT: Wingall, Richard. *Writing about Music: An Introductory Guide*. 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2001.

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT:

Lee University is a Christian institution which offers liberal arts and professional education on both the baccalaureate and graduate levels. It seeks to provide education that integrates biblical truth as revealed in the Holy Scriptures with truth discovered through the study of arts and sciences and in the practice of various professions. A personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior is the controlling perspective from which the educational enterprise is carried out. The foundational purpose of all educational programs is to develop within the students knowledge, appreciation, understanding, ability and skills which will prepare them for responsible Christian living in a complex world.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Designed as a culminating experience for students in the BA in Music curriculum, this course guides the student through the process of conceiving and developing a musical topic for research. Students report their research in a major paper and present it in a public forum.

Prerequisites: MUHL-311; MUHL-312; MUSA-288; MUST-241 or MUST-243
Credit Hours: 1

Computer-Assisted Instruction (Y/N): N

Additional Fees:

I. PURPOSE

This course is intended to help the student develop (a) independent and critical thinking, (b) mental discipline and focus, (c) the ability to plan and execute an in-depth scholarly investigation, and (d) the skills of analysis, synthesis, and clear communication, in both oral and written form.

II. OBJECTIVES OF COURSE

A. General Learning Objectives

This course seeks to:

1. Identify the phases of developing a viable topic for thesis.
2. Discuss and apply the principles of good scholarly writing.
3. Further develop students' knowledge and understanding of appropriate sources for developing and researching topics in music.

4. Guide students in the preparation of a scholarly paper.
5. Explore the process of adapting written research papers into scholarly presentations appropriate for professional meetings.

B. Specific Behavioral Objectives

As a result of the activities and study in this course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the steps in developing a viable research topic.
2. Develop a topic related to personal interests and experience that has potential for extended research.
3. Prepare a prospectus that includes an annotated bibliography of sources related to the chosen topic.
4. In consultation with appointed faculty, write a 20-30 page paper that demonstrates critical thinking, senior-level understanding of the topic, and accepted principles of scholarly writing.
5. Effectively incorporate chosen source materials in the paper.
6. Adapt the finished paper into a 20-30 minute oral presentation and deliver it effectively in a forum designated by the School of Music.

III. TOPICS TO BE COVERED

A. Choosing a Research Topic

B. Logistics of Research

1. Locating sources
2. Evaluating sources
3. Organizing materials

C. Presentation of Research

1. Integrating source materials
2. How to avoid plagiarism
3. Analysis and integration of ideas
4. Scholarly, logical writing

5. Oral presentation and scholarly meetings

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES

- A. Individual consultation with student
- B. Written feedback on student writing
- C. Coaching for oral presentation

V. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- A. Develop a topic in consultation with faculty supervisor
- B. Write and submit the prospectus with annotated bibliography
- C. Research approved topic
- D. Present drafts of paper as assigned
- E. Revise drafts as assigned
- F. Organize and deliver oral presentation
- G. Submit final version of paper by established deadline

VI. EVALUATION

A. Evaluation Activities

- 1. Prospectus (10%)
- 2. Drafts and Revisions (10%)
- 3. Oral Presentation (30%)
- 4. Final Paper (50%)

B. Grading Scale

94%-100%	A	80%-82%	B-	67%-69%	D+
90%-93%	A-	77%-79%	C+	63%-66%	D
87%-89%	B+	73%-76%	C	60%-62%	D-
83%-86%	B	70%-72%	C-	0%-59%	F

VII. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Lee University is committed to the provision of reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students who think they may qualify for these accommodations should notify their instructor immediately. Special services are provided through the Academic Support Program.

VIII. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

As a Christian community of scholarship, we at Lee University are committed to the principles of truth and honesty in the academic endeavor. As faculty and students in this Christian community, we are called to present our academic work as an honest reflection of our abilities; we do not need to defraud members of the community by presenting others' work as our own. Therefore, academic dishonesty is handled with serious consequences for two fundamental reasons: it is stealing – taking something that is not ours; it is also lying – pretending to be something it is not. In a Christian community, such pretense is not only unnecessary; it is also harmful to the individual and community as a whole. Cheating should have no place at a campus where Christ is King because God desires us to be truthful with each other concerning our academic abilities. Only with a truthful presentation of our knowledge can there be an honest evaluation of our abilities. To such integrity, we as a Christian academic community are called.

IX. READING LIST

Bellman, Jonathan. *A Short Guide to Writing about Music*. New York: Longman, 2000.

Chicago Manual of Style. 16th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010.

Crabtree, Phillip and Donald Foster. *Sourcebook for Research in Music*. 2nd ed. Bloomington, IN: Indiana UP, 2005.

Gottlieb, Jane. *Music Library and Research Skills*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009.

Selected books and journals based on topic