

TITLE  
(IN CAPITAL LETTERS)

**PROPOSAL OF (DMA DISSERTATION or DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROJECT)**

Submitted to the Graduate Professional Committee for Approval

By

(Full Name of Student)

Candidate for the Degree

Doctor of Musical Arts

Department of

(Candidates for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Performance and Literature will add applied major in parentheses)

Eastman School of Music

of the

University of Rochester

(Date Proposal is Submitted)

ENDORSED BY:

Student's Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Dissertation/Doctoral Research Project Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Dissertation/Doctoral Research Project Reader: \_\_\_\_\_  
(within the student's department)

Dissertation/Doctoral Research Project Reader: \_\_\_\_\_  
(outside the student's department, and usually a faculty member in Musicology, if known)

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STUDENTS MAJORING IN PERFORMANCE & LITERATURE, EARLY MUSIC, PIANO ACCOMPANYING, CONDUCTING, OR JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY MEDIA WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PREPARING A DISSERTATION OR DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROJECT MUST FIRST CONSULT WITH THE CHAIR OF THE MUSICOLOGY DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH THE STUDENT'S ABILITY TO ACCOMPLISH INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND TO WRITE EFFECTIVELY IN ENGLISH, AS WELL AS TO DISCUSS THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROJECT.

APPROVAL FROM CHAIR OF MUSICOLOGY DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEE REVERSE SIDE**

## **Guidelines for DMA Dissertation/Doctoral Research Project Proposals**

The dissertation/doctoral research project proposal should be prepared in consultation with the student's advisor and department chair. Other faculty from the department may be involved as well; this practice varies by department. Dissertation/doctoral research project proposals should be submitted along with the student's program of study during their third semester of coursework. Once approval has been obtained from the Musicology department chair (PRL, EMH, ACM, CND, and JCM majors only), the student's department chair, and at least two of the three advisors for the dissertation/doctoral research project, the student should submit the title page and proposal to the Graduate Professional Committee for final approval.

The format required by the individual departments varies somewhat. Students writing a doctoral research project typically submit proposals for their paper ca. 5 pages in length; no proposal is required for a composition. Student writing a dissertation usually submit proposals ca. 15 pages in length. Students should consider the following elements as they prepare their dissertation/doctoral research project proposals:

1. Title page (following the model on the reverse side of this page, including the faculty signatures) – required of all proposals
2. Prospectus outlining the project, its scope and goals, methodology, and summary of state of research
3. Bibliography
4. Table of contents (optional)

It is understood that the dissertation/doctoral research project proposal has been thoroughly vetted by the student's department before it is proposed to the GPC. It is important that the dissertation/doctoral research project advisor as well as the committee members both within and outside the department be on board with the project by the time the proposal reaches the GPC; in some cases (usually involving dissertations in composition), the outside member can not be identified until later in the process. According to UR policy, dissertation/doctoral research project committee members must be full-time faculty with the rank of assistant professor or higher. It is expected that the dissertation/doctoral research project committee members will have regular input into the project from its inception right up to the final oral defense.

A final oral examination (a defense of the dissertation) is not required of DMA candidates unless requested by the candidate, the department, the associate dean of graduate studies, or the advisor.