

TITLE
(IN CAPITAL LETTERS)

**PROPOSAL OF (DMA DISSERTATION; DOCTORAL ESSAY;
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:

Department Chair _____

Dissertation/Doctoral Essay Advisor _____

Dissertation/Doctoral Essay Reader (within the department) _____

Dissertation/Doctoral Essay Reader (outside the department, if known) _____
(For Doctoral Essays, the second reader is normally a faculty member in Musicology)

DMA Conducting Students: (please read reverse side)

Doctoral Research Project Proposal - Three-member reading committee, at least one member from outside the Conducting & Ensembles Department.

Doctoral Research Project Advisor _____

Doctoral Research Project Co-Advisor or Reader _____

Doctoral Research Project Reader _____

SEE REVERSE SIDE

Guidelines for DMA Dissertation/Doctoral Essay Proposals

The dissertation 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 proposals may be submitted only after the student has an approved program of study on file, fulfilled the language requirement(s), and passed the qualifying examination. Once departmental approval for the dissertation proposal has been obtained, 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 essay typically submit proposals for their research 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 essay 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 essay proposal has been thoroughly vetted by the student's department before it is proposed to the GPC. It is important that the dissertation/doctoral essay 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 essay committee members must be full-time faculty with the rank of assistant professor or higher. It is expected that the dissertation/doctoral essay committee members will have regular input into the project from its inception right up to the final oral defense.

Conducting Majors – Doctoral Research Project

The final project for conducting majors consists of (1) a research paper dealing with selected repertoire, (2) one or more public performances of that repertoire, in the candidate's field of emphasis, in which professional proficiency is expected; performances must be scheduled at least two months after the final, written research paper has been approved by the reading committee, and (3) a lecture-recital to be given in a rehearsal at least two weeks before the performance. A proposal for the research paper for conducting majors must be approved by the Graduate Professional Committee along with the candidate's program of study, and may be co-advised by a faculty member of the Conducting and Ensembles department as well as a faculty member in Musicology, Music Education, or Music Theory; in any case, at least one reader from outside the department will serve on the three-member reading committee that grants approval of the final research paper.

A final oral examination (a defense of the dissertation) is nor required of DMA candidates unless requested by the candidate, the department, the associate dean of graduate studies, or the advisor.