

UCI Music Theory Graduate Theory Exam

All incoming M.F.A musicology and applied students must take two music theory placement exams. The harmonic theory exam will indicate whether a student needs to take any remedial undergraduate theory to prepare for Analysis 201, while the brief exam on Classical Form will determine whether the student needs to take Music 155 for credit or is exempt.

Topics covered in the Harmonic Theory exam may include any of the following:

- Part-writing in four voices
- Linear chords (64, inverted dominants, and others)
- Secondary dominants and leading-tone chords
- Diatonic and chromatic sequence
- Modal mixture
- Advanced chromatic harmony (the Neapolitan, augmented sixth, altered dominants and common-tone diminished seventh and augmented chords)
- Extended harmonies (9th, 11th, 13th and added-note)
- Dominant prolongation
- Related and foreign-key modulations

Topics covered in the Classical Form exam may include any of the following:

- Thematic types (period and sentence)
- Distinguishing Binary, Rounded Binary and Ternary Form
- Compound Forms (i.e., nested forms)
- Sonata Form
- Rondo Form
- Formal Functions (themes, transitions, framing functions, etc.)