

### **MUSC 4399: Thesis Guidelines**

BMus students in the Musicology concentration and in the BA Honours degree must write a thesis as their graduation requirement. The honours thesis will be submitted for review by the supervisor and a second reader. A minimum grade of B- (GPA 2.7) is required to graduate.

**Honours Thesis:** The honours thesis is a substantial piece of writing, 25-35 pages in length, on a topic chosen by the student and agreed to by the supervisor. It is the responsibility of the student to approach potential supervisors and obtain their agreement to the topic chosen. The project should demonstrate mastery of the mechanics of writing, as well as skill at:

- (1) defining a problem;
- (2) researching the literature more widely than in a course paper;
- (3) developing a critical approach and establishing a theoretical framework;
- (4) organizing a longer piece of writing;
- (5) revising in response to criticism;
- (6) using musical examples correctly and effectively.

**Evaluation:** The thesis will be read and evaluated by the supervisor and by a second reader. The Musicology Coordinator will select the second reader based on the supervisor's recommendation when the thesis form is completed.

#### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES:**

##### **3<sup>rd</sup> year:**

**March 1:** Submit Thesis Form to the Musicology Coordinator.

**March 15:** Roundtable for all students pursuing the thesis option to discuss general requirements and procedures for completing the thesis, as well as applications to graduate school or professional programs (selecting schools, writing statements of intent, soliciting letters of reference).

##### **4<sup>th</sup> year:**

**Nov. 1:** One-paragraph description and a preliminary bibliography due.

**Jan. 15:** Preliminary draft due.

**Feb. 15:** Draft of the entire thesis due.

**April 1:** Final version of thesis due (two copies must be submitted).