

For more detailed information on the requirements and regulations of a doctoral project and the course of studies, see the current doctoral and study regulations of the HfMT.

What are the possible formats of the doctoral project (Dr. sc. mus.)?

The doctoral program Dr. sc. mus. currently offers two possibilities to implement a doctoral project:

1. a purely scientific doctorate, consisting of a dissertation.
2. an artistic-scientific doctorate, which combines an artistic project or a music-theoretical work or music-technological work with a written dissertation, which is related to the artistic project/the music-theoretical work/the music-technological work in terms of content. In this case, the scientific component is to be weighted heavier than the artistic project/the music-theoretical work/the music-technological work.

How is the doctoral program structured?

According to the study regulations for the Dr. sc. mus., doctoral students need to complete various scientific and artistic-scientific subjects. The course is divided into four modules. The standard period of study is 6 semesters:

- Module 1: Dissertation/Artistic Project (135 credits).
- Module 2: Studies in the following subjects depending on your project: musicology, music theory, music technology (NOTE: you can earn your credits either in only one of these subjects or in a combination of these subjects, 22 credits)
- Module 3: Studies in scientific subjects not taken in Module 2 (15 credits)
- Module 4: Disputation (8 credits)

Regarding the possibility to accredit previous studies as Modules, these will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the doctoral committee of HfMT after the doctoral project has been accepted.

What are the requirements for applying for a Ph.D. degree in Dr. sc. mus.?

- A completed master's degree in one of the following fields: Music, Musicology, Theatre Studies, Dramaturgy, Design, Digital Media, Computer Science, Music Technology; or a First State Examination in Music ('Erstes Staatsexamen').
- Or an equivalent foreign examination in one of the above-mentioned fields of study at a scientific or artistic-scientific university.
- In case of purely scientific research: previous studies in the subjects of module 2 to the extent of 30 credits.
- In case of artistic-scientific research: previous studies in the subjects of module 2 to the extent of 15 credits.
- A working level of English (TOEFL, level B2) and at least basic ability in another foreign language (apart from German).

- Foreign applicants who do not have a German school or university degree must provide evidence of good German language skills at least at level C1 of the common European framework of reference for languages or an equivalent; this corresponds, for example, to the successfully completed TestDaFTDN 5 or DSH Level 3. When electing Music Technology (only) in Module 2: If the subject content of the doctoral project requires the dissertation to be written in English, proof of German language skills can be waived in justified cases with the approval of the doctoral committee, as a specific exception to the rule.

When and how do I have to submit my application?

The application deadline is December 15 for the summer semester and May 15 for the winter semester (the postmarked date applies). Send your materials both via email (in a singular .pdf file) to the chairman of the doctoral committee Prof. Dr. Jan Philipp Sprick (jan.sprick@hfmt-hamburg.de) and the program administrator Ms. Renate Griese (renate.griese@hfmt.hamburg.de) as well as by mail in paper form to:

Hamburg University of Music and Theatre
 Attn: Renate Griese
 Harvestehuder Weg 12
 20148 Hamburg

How do I proceed with an application and what do I need to submit?

One of the first steps is to get in touch with a potential doctoral supervisor and ask for their interest. NOTE: there are important guidelines and requirements as to who can be considered as your supervisor (see the subsequent FAQ below). You should then specify your doctoral project (if necessary, taking into account the advice of your intended supervisor) and submit your application to the doctoral committee of HfMT.

Your application must include the following

- Degree certificate(s) (Diplom, Master, Magister): This should also include proof of the credits required for a prerequisite.
- A curriculum vitae in tabular form with special reference to your artistic and/or scientific career.
- A short summary of your project (approx. 15 lines).
- A detailed exposé (between 7 and 15 pages) on the planned doctoral project and, if applicable, artistic project, including bibliography and timetable.
- A written notification from the primary supervisor about their willingness to supervise the dissertation program.
- A statement as to whether previous doctoral attempts have been made or doctoral dissertations completed, or whether the dissertation has been submitted in the same or a different form in another procedure. Regarding previous doctoral attempts, the place, time, and university as well as the subject of the dissertation must be stated and, if applicable, a declaration of consent to the inspection of these documents must be included.
- A declaration that you are familiar with the doctoral regulations as detailed.
- If you do not have a German school or university degree, please submit a German language certificate at C1 level (this corresponds, for example, to the successfully completed TestDaFTDN 5 or DSH level 3).

Who can supervise my doctorate? (Selection of supervisors)

Each dissertation is supervised by at least two supervisors. At least one of the two persons must be a member of the HfMT. In the case of purely scientific research, both reviewers must hold a doctorate degree in a scientific discipline; in the case of artistic research, one reviewer must represent a discipline of the musical sciences (e.g. musicology or professor of music theory, music technology holding a doctorate degree or a professor of composition holding a doctorate degree in musicology). The other professor must represent an artistic subject and does not need to hold a doctorate. Accordingly, your confirmation of supervision submitted with your application does not necessarily have to be written by a member of HfMT and, in the case of an artistic-scientific dissertation, it does not have to be written by a scientific supervisor but can also be written by an artistic supervisor.

In addition, a third supervisor can be appointed. A third party reviewer must meet the following requirements:

- The person does not necessarily have to hold a doctorate degree.
- He/she can be a member of HfMT or another university.
- If one of the two supervisors is external, a third supervisor must be an active member of HfMT. The majority of the supervisors must therefore be members of HfMT Hamburg.
- A total of two detailed references/recommendations must be prepared.
- All supervisors evaluate the thesis and are invited to the disputation.

Do I already need a letter of intent from all supervisors for the application?

No, for the application you need a commitment from the first supervisor. A second supervisor does not have to be confirmed at the time of application - however, it is recommended.

What are the requirements for the exposé to be submitted?

The synopsis provides an overview of the objectives, the content and the structure of the doctoral project. How you structure your exposé in terms of content and form is up to you. However, the basic research principles that should be depicted in the exposé are:

- What (topic/question; in the case of an artistic-scientific doctorate: description of the artistic project and connection to the scientific work)?
- Why (scientific, artistic, social, personal relevance)?
- What is the basis (state of research)?
- How (research method)?
- What framework (timeline with milestones, outline, initial literature collection)?
- In the case of an artistic/scientific doctorate: Expected costs and initial budget.

How does the doctoral program run?

After the start of the doctoral program, an agreement of supervision is concluded between you and your supervisors on the doctoral project, in which the doctoral topic, mutual rights and obligations and, as a rule, a work plan are defined. The mutual rights and obligations include,

among other things, a binding and regular exchange about the progress of the doctoral project and regular feedback on your achievements and potential.

During your doctoral studies, you will be required to attend courses at HfMT and/or other recognized colleges and universities in order to complete your curriculum. The following events are obligatory:

- Participation in at least 2 conferences: one of them as passive member, one active.
- Participation in doctoral seminars and colloquia.
- At least three presentations of the respective state of the dissertation in seminars or colloquia (e.g. in a regular lecture or lecture-recital).
- The completion of at least one semester of the class "Concepts and Methods of Artistic-Scientific Research" for doctoral candidates who are pursuing an artistic-scientific doctorate according to §2 paragraph (2), 2. of the doctoral regulations.

All other academic achievements can be freely chosen in agreement with the supervisors and, if applicable, the doctoral committee, and should be related to the content of the doctoral project.

In the case of a purely scientific doctorate, the academic degree of Doctor of Musical Sciences (Dr. sc. mus.) is finally awarded on the basis of a scientific paper written independently by you and presented as a scientific treatise (monographic dissertation) or in several thematically connected individual papers (cumulative dissertation), and a successful oral examination (disputation).

In the case of an artistic-scientific dissertation, the academic degree of Doctor of Musical Sciences (Dr. sc. mus.) is awarded on the basis of an independently written and executed artistic project/music-theoretical work/music-technological work as well as an independently written scientific work presented as a scientific treatise (monographic dissertation) or in several thematically related individual works (cumulative dissertation) and a successful oral examination (disputation). The order in which the scientific work or the artistic project/theoretical music work/technological music work is to be done is not specified.

Do I have to live in Hamburg for my doctoral studies (Dr. sc. mus.)?

No, you do not have to live in Hamburg to obtain a doctorate (Dr. sc. mus.). However, you are required to participate in the above-mentioned events and to complete the course work. If you also want to realise an artistic project at HfMT, it is advisable to already become familiar with the procedures and structures at HfMT.

What costs do I have to expect?

Once the doctoral committee has accepted your proposal, you must enrol at the university and pay semester fees. The HfMT cannot guarantee that it will cover the costs of your doctoral project.

How do I find the right scholarship for my doctoral project?

A large number of different scholarship opportunities can be found on the internet or on scholarship search sites. On average, a doctoral scholarship amounts to around 1,300€ per month. However, it is advisable to discuss the health insurance contributions you will have to pay with your respective health insurance institute beforehand. For an initial overview of the orientation

of foundations and possible scholarships, it is worth taking a look at the listing of the Hamburg Research Academy (<https://www.hra-hamburg.de>). To cover the costs of a large-scale artistic project, it is recommended to apply independently and early for public and private funds.

Can I have a part-time job with a doctoral scholarship?

This varies from scholarship to scholarship. Often, secondary employment in research and teaching is permitted up to a quarter-time basis (thereby corresponding to around 10 hours per week); in all other areas, the limit is often an eighth of a position (thereby corresponding to around 5 hours per week). Such requirements are usually justified by the fact that a scholarship is intended to support the work on the doctorate and that other additional activities would take up too much of your time or otherwise be a burden on your studies. However, you must ask the respective foundation directly for detailed information.

Where can I find more information about applying for a doctorate?

Reading tips from our side would be:

- "Promotionsplanung und Exposé: Die ersten Schritte auf dem Weg zur Dissertation", 2019 by Jutta Wergen.
- "RATGEBER PROMOTION. Entscheiden, planen, durchhalten: Die wichtigsten Tipps für die Dissertation in allen großen Fachgebieten" 2019 by ZeitCampus.
- Detailed information on Hamburg Research Academy (<https://www.hra-hamburg.de>).
- Standard literature on Artistic Research, if you are interested in pursuing a PhD in the arts and sciences: "Research in Art and Design," Christopher Frayling, Royal College of Art Research Papers, 1993/94. "The Conflict of the Faculties: Perspectives on Artistic Research and Academia.", Henk Borgdorff, Leiden University Press, 2012.

Who can I contact for further questions about the doctoral program of Dr. sc. mus?

For administrative and general questions, please contact the responsible administrator: promotion@hfmt-hamburg.de

For content-related questions, please contact the chair of the doctoral committee, Prof. Dr. Jan Philipp Sprick (jan.sprick@hfmt-hamburg.de).

Further contact details, members of the doctoral committee as well as a list of professors who can be considered for academic supervision can be found on the website of the HfMT Hamburg (www.hfmt-hamburg.de).