

Senior Project Guidelines

The senior project in music history is a capstone research project. The student will work one-on-one with an AC professor in the department in writing a significant historical paper in music history and literature (25-30 pages in length). This paper is written after all music theory and history credits have been completed though it may coincide, if necessary, with the last semester of music history and theory.

After signing up for the course, the student will consult with the Chair of the department in identifying a faculty member as the advisor for the project. In addition to the advisor, the student will also have two readers, as approved by the department. The student will have regular meetings with the faculty advisor and, together, will identify an appropriate topic and an appropriate timetable for the completion of the paper.

The paper will be completed by no later than Nov. 1 in the fall semester or April 1 in the spring semester, at which time the final draft will be forwarded to the faculty readers. The readers may suggest some revisions to the paper, which would need to be incorporated before the public presentation (see below).

The student will work with the Chair to schedule a public reading of the paper. Members of the college community will be invited to hear this reading. The presentation, highlighting the student's research, will be 20 minutes in length, followed by a question and answer period. Following this presentation, the grade will be calculated as follows: the advisor's grade is 50% and the readers' grades are the other 50%. The grade will reflect the quality of the research and writing (75%), as well as the public presentation (25%).