

Upper Division Qualifying Exam Info.....for **VOCAL THEORY/COMPOSITION**  
Majors

**Vocal Studies Department**

Purpose: To determine through examination whether voice students at the conclusion of study at level IVB are qualified to enter a chosen major. All level IVB students will take a comprehensive Upper Division Qualifying Jury exam in which sight-reading, learning new repertoire, and other functional skills will be tested. In addition to performing the regular jury repertoire, students will be required to learn a song in 24 hours without help from their teacher (not memorized).

Upper Division Qualifying Jury exams will occur on a separate day, will last approximately 20 minutes and will be attended by voice, music education, theory/composition and music therapy faculty. Students who do not pass this exam must repeat applied music level IVB and will not be granted junior standing in music. *The Upper Division Qualifying Jury exam may be retaken no more than two times (for a total of three times altogether) and only at the discretion of the student's applied vocal instructor.*

**Music Majors in Theory/Composition:**

The exam will consist of a minimum of five (5) selections that must represent the following:

- Three languages – including at least one piece in Italian
- Three Style selections

**Additional Requirements for the Bachelor of Music in Theory/Composition**

1. Students typically submit application to the Composition major in their fourth semester of music study. In order for an application to be seriously considered by the Department of Theory, Composition & Musicology, applicants are expected to consistently demonstrate substantial accomplishment in Theory, History, Musicianship and Orchestration classes, as reflected by both grades and instructor recommendations.
2. As noted in the ECU Undergraduate Catalog: "For admission to the upper level theory-composition concentrations, a student must have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA in music courses at the end of the sophomore year."
3. Application Deadline: By April 1 (or the first Friday in April), the prospective composition major should submit a dossier to Dr. Thomas Huener, Chair of the Theory, Composition & Musicology Department.
4. Acceptance to the composition major is contingent upon students' successful completion of the Upper Division Qualifying Exam on their major applied instrument.

5. Your Application Packet: The dossier submitted for application should include:
- Scores, programs and, if possible, tapes of works performed at ECU
  - A "declaration of intent," which should articulate your compositional goals, professional goals, and personal evaluation of your development since beginning composition study

A list of courses taken, and grades received, in the Theory, Composition & Musicology Department (Basic Musicianship [Music Theory], Basic Musicianship Lab [Ear-Training], Music History, etc.).