The Department of Music at the University of Virginia invites applications for its PhD in Critical and Comparative Studies in Music (CCS). The deadline for submitting an application is January 15, 2024.

The CCS program is a pioneer in transdisciplinary approaches to the critical study of music, sound, listening, and embodied somatic experience. The program encompasses a breadth of evolving subfields and approaches, and we invite students to reimagine with us the music PhD in the context of the changing landscape of higher education. We highlight the role of creative practice in—and multi-modal approaches to—research and graduate training at a public university.

Our program makes space for students with a wide variety of previous educational experiences. This reflects our faculty who research and teach across multiple fields, including musicology and ethnomusicology; sound studies; performance studies; history; African and African American studies; anthropology; philosophy; rhetoric; composition; politics; and law.

Recent graduate seminars have been organized around topics such as music and memory; curating sound; gender, sexuality, and disability; ethnographic writing and positionality; the “Black” voice; sound and the law; opera; the critical history of American folk music; music and pleasure; performance ethnography and altered states; and Africanfuturism.

We encourage students to envision/design a research program that suits their unique interests and skills; to participate in performance; to take PhD-level courses beyond the Music Department; and to engage with local communities. Our alumni are teaching at a variety of institutions, including Amherst, Temple, Central Missouri, Colgate, East Tennessee State, Hampden-Sydney, Rhode Island, Swarthmore, and Towson; work in an array of domains (curator, editor, artist-activist, professional performer, dean, folklife educator, archivist, librarian); and publish extensively in academic and more public venues.

For further information about our graduate program, please contact Matthew Burtner, Director of Graduate Studies: musicdgs@virginia.edu

Our department website has further information about the CCS program: https://music.virginia.edu/ccs-phd

You can find further information about the application process, funding, and fellowships on the UVA Graduate School of Arts and Sciences website: https://graduate.as.virginia.edu/

You are also welcome to contact any member of the CCS graduate faculty, listed below alphabetically. CCS students regularly work with and take seminars from our stellar composition faculty, whose names you will also find below. We look forward to receiving your application.

CCS graduate faculty:
- A.D. Carson: aydeecarson@virginia.edu
- Nomi Dave: ndave@virginia.edu
- Scott DeVeaux: deveaux@virginia.edu
- Bonnie Gordon: bongordon@virginia.edu
- Michelle Kisliuk: kisliuk@virginia.edu
- Fred Everett Maus: maus@virginia.edu
- Karl Hagstrom Miller: khm8f@virginia.edu
- Noel Lobley: lobley@virginia.edu
- Michael J. Puri: puri@virginia.edu
- Richard Will: richardwill@virginia.edu

Composition and Computer Technologies graduate faculty:
- JoVia Armstrong: Jovia@virginia.edu
- Matthew Burtner: mburtner@virginia.edu
- Ted Coffey: coffey@virginia.edu
- Luke Dahl: lutedahl@virginia.edu
- Nicole Mitchell Gantt: nikimusics@virginia.edu
- Leah Reid: leahreid@virginia.edu