



**School of Music**  
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## Graduate Studies in Music Theory at the University of British Columbia

The [UBC School of Music](#) welcomes applications to its [Ph.D.](#) and [M.A.](#) degrees in Music Theory. The research specialties of our faculty offer students a deep and mutually complementary coverage of important trends in contemporary music theory:

[Ève Poudrier](#) (PhD, CUNY): Temporal multiplicity and twentieth-century music; music cognition, especially rhythm, expertise, and cross-cultural issues; Schenkerian analysis.  
[Leigh VanHandel](#) (PhD, Stanford): music theory pedagogy; music theory and cognitive science; music theory fundamentals; tonal literature and analysis.  
[John Roeder](#) (PhD, Yale): rhythm; mathematical and computational models of music, theory and analysis of post-tonal music; world-music analysis.

Our students also benefit from the broad expertise of our tightly knit group of scholars of music [theory](#), [musicology](#), and [ethnomusicology](#), and from our collegial relationships with our outstanding performance faculty.

In our seminars and thesis supervision we encourage a diversity of viewpoints and approaches; recent theses and dissertations have covered such topics as [text and rhythm in popular song](#), [replicative transformational networks](#), [expressive microtiming and groove in fiddle music](#), [formation and process in repetitive post-tonal music](#), [theoretical aspects of clave](#), [meter as process in popular music](#), [borrowing and form in Renaissance mass cycles](#), [timbre-harmony in spectral music](#), [motives and harmony in musical theatre songs](#), and [Tchaikovsky's theory and use of augmented sixth chords](#).

We supervise our students closely, and mentor them to develop original research for presentation at conferences and in professional journals. Our most recent Ph.D.s have obtained faculty positions at the University of Houston, Portland State, Northern Colorado State, the University of Manitoba, Elon University, St. Olaf College, and SUNY Potsdam.

Accepted doctoral students are guaranteed four years' funding through a combination of scholarship, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships. Similarly structured funding packages are also offered to MA students. Qualified students may start assisting with teaching early in their programs, and are entitled to reappointment.

Our [campus](#) is located in [Vancouver](#), British Columbia, one of the most beautiful and culturally diverse cities in the world. [Housing](#) is available both on campus and in the nearby city.

We would be happy to correspond or meet virtually to discuss our program further. Please email any of us at the addresses given in our links above, or directly to [leigh.vanhandel@ubc.ca](mailto:leigh.vanhandel@ubc.ca).