# Statement of Research Intent for Doctoral Study in Music

This information is supplementary to your Application for Admission (AfA) to Doctoral Study at The University of Auckland. The purpose is to have sufficient information for the School of Music to assess your application for admission and allocate supervisors best able to support your area of research.

This is not intended to be a definitive statement of your research intentions: developing your research towards a full thesis proposal is a major task undertaken by doctoral candidates in their first year of study.

Feel free to expand these boxes as needed.

## General Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name and Surname:** |  |
| **Highest qualification:** |  |
| **Was this a taught degree or a research degree?[[1]](#footnote-1)** |  |

***IMPORTANT:*** *If you have completed a taught degree, please provide evidence that you have completed a written task of at least 10,000 words. This may include: a written component in a taught degree, a peer reviewed conference paper, journal article, book, chapter in books and professional/technical reports (or any combination of them).*

## Preliminary Research Proposal[[2]](#footnote-2)

|  |
| --- |
| **Doctoral programme stream**  Choose between: 1) PhD, 2) DMus and 3) DMA. |
|  |
| **Proposed Supervisor (if known)**  If you would like to work with a specific supervisor, provide their name. If you have already contacted that supervisor, please indicate that as well.  ***IMPORTANT:*** *having a specific supervisor is not mandatory at this stage and the Director of Postgraduate Studies will allocate supervisors best able to support your area of research according to the information you provide in this form.* |
|  |
| **Provisional topic description for the proposed research**  This is a provisional working topic that can be changed when you develop the research proposal once admitted. *(100 words maximum)* |
|  |
| **Research context and/or background**  Briefly outline the context or background to which your intended research relates or from which it emerges. Set out what you see as key issues around which your research is framed. *(write ca. 400 words)* |
|  |
| **Aims and objectives of the research; research question(s)**  What are you aiming to achieve in your research? This might be a better understanding of some issues or practice, enhancing the quality of outcomes, improving how things are done, etc. What is the key provisional research question or questions? *(write ca. 400 words)* |
|  |
| **Research methodology**  Identify the key method or methods relevant to addressing the research proposal and, specifically, the research question(s) you have framed above. This may involve a range of methods in the musical disciplines including, but not limited to: critical and/or historical musicology, performance history, performance technique, performance practice research, action research, narrative enquiry, compositional technique, music analysis, pedagogical research, etc. *(write ca. 400 words)* |
|  |
| **Previous Masters Research**  If you have completed research at Master’s level on the same (or a similar) topic, explain how your proposed doctoral research will be different from that previously completed. The PhD/DMus/DMA needs to make a new contribution to knowledge, so tell us how you will *develop* and *extend* your Master’s research topic at doctoral level. |
|  |
| **Creative outputs**  DMus: If you are applying for the DMus, please indicate below the potential contents of your composition portfolio.  DMA: If you are applying for the DMA, please indicate below some potential recital repertoire.  PhD: The University of Auckland offers the option of a PhD with creative practice, consisting of a 60,000-word thesis and a creative output. In Music this output might be (but is not limited to) a composition portfolio, a recital, a teaching manual, etc. If it is your intention to include this option, it is necessary to provide sufficient detail at the application stage by completing the Statement of Research Intent for PhDs with creative practice (<https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about/the-university/how-university-works/policy-and-administration/teaching-and-learning/postgraduate-research/undertaking-your-research/creative-practice.html>). You need to explain how the theoretical and practical components will be integrated. The creative work will be part of the material examined along with the written work. The PhD with creative practice should not be confused with the DMus (a composition research degree) or the DMA (a performance research degree).  ***IMPORTANT: PhD applicants complete this section ONLY if you wish to pursue the option of the PhD with Creative Practice.*** |
|  |
| **Key readings/bibliography**  While this is not expected to be comprehensive or extensive at this stage, please provide a list of a few key references to published work that informs your proposed area of research. This may include those sources that were key ones in your Master degree if relevant. Also, include what you consider to be sources of key knowledge or seminal work related to your proposed topic. |
|  |

***IMPORTANT:*** *when completed, please email this form to the Director of Postgraduate Studies in the School of Music.*

*In addition, please upload this information into your Application for Admission (AfA) to the doctoral studies programme.*

1. A research degree would normally involve the writing and examination of a thesis or dissertation. A taught degree will have a number of courses or subjects, but may include a research task. The University of Auckland MMus is a research degree. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Expand each field as you think it suits the description. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)