DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC  
Suggested Guidelines for PhD Publishable Paper

Purpose: The PhD publishable paper requirement should be intended to provide practice for the doctoral student in preparation of an article suitable for the publication in a scholarly journal, and to verify that the student’s investigative and writing skills are developed to point normally required for professional scholarly research.

Schedule: The publishable paper should be prepared after the doctoral committee is in place and accepted in the manner described below before the doctoral qualifying exam is scheduled.

Form and Content: While the PhD publishable paper need not present original research findings (although it may), it should be of suitable length, style, tone, and quality for publication in a refereed scholarly journal. It should be submitted in exactly the form that would be required by any particular refereed scholarly journal, following all author’s guidelines (as published in, for example, Perspectives of New Music, Journal of New Music Theory, Computer Music Journal, or Music Perception).

Review Procedure: The paper should be submitted to the chair of the student’s doctoral committee, who then passes it for review to all other committee members. Reviewed copies of the manuscript are then returned to the committee chair, who acts in the capacity of a journal editor. Revision of the manuscript should be made and the revised manuscript resubmitted for review as many times as the committee chair deems necessary. The committee chair, acting with the advice from the other committee members, should have the final authority over the acceptability of the manuscript as “publishable”.

Final Disposition: A copy of the final, revised manuscript will be sent to the Music Library for placement on Special Reserve. An acceptance sheet approved and signed by the committee should be kept in the student’s file. Students should be encourages to actually publish these papers, though acceptance by a scholarly journal should not be a formal requirement. Papers may be published in “Ex Tempore” (see Professor Gerald Balzano, faculty advisor).

Notes:
1. The publishable paper should be on a topic agreed upon by both student and the committee chair.
2. The paper should be prepared while the student is in residence of the doctoral program.
3. There should be no formal requirement that the topic be related in any particular way to coursework done at UCSD.