

Nicholas J. Shea, Ph.D.
Curriculum Vitae

Academic appointments

2020– Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Arizona State University
 Co-Principal Investigator, ASU CACTUS Music Lab
 Director, graduate Music Theory Pedagogy Certificate program
 Coordinator, first-year undergraduate music theory sequence

Publications

Published **N. Shea.** 2023. “‘Guitar Thinking’ and ‘Genre Thinking’ among an Online
 Community of Guitarists.” *IASPM Journal* 13, no. 1.

 K. Knowles & **N. Shea.** 2022. “From Counterpoint to Small Forms: A Cross-
 Stylistic Approach to Centering Black Artists in the Theory Core,” chapter in
 Expanding the Canon: Black Composers in the Music Theory Classroom, ed. M. Hoag.

 S. Gardner & **N. Shea.** 2022. “Gestural Perspectives on Popular-music
 Performance,” *Music Theory Online* 28.3.

N. Shea. 2022. “The Feel of the Guitar in Popular Music Performance,” *SMT-V* 8.3.

N. Shea. 2020. “Descending Bass Schemata and Negative Emotion in Western Song,”
 Empirical Musicology Review 14, no. 3.

 M. Markel & **N. Shea.** 2016. “Report on the 2016 Workshops in Music Theory
 Pedagogy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst,”
 Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy 30, no. 1.

In press **N. Shea.** 2022. “A Demographic Sampling Model and Database for Addressing
 Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Bias in Popular-music Empirical Research,”
 Empirical Musicology Review 17, no. 1.

N. Shea, N. Reymore, C. White, B. Duinker, L. VanHandel, M. Zeller, N.
 Biamonte. 2023. “Diversity in Music Corpus Studies.” *Music Theory Online* 30.1.

Under review **N. Shea**, C. White, B. Hughes, and D. Vuvan. 2023. “Effects of Meter and Training
 on Tonic Perception in Loop-based Popular-music Harmonic Contexts.”
 Music Perception.

Higher education

2020 Doctor of Philosophy in Music Theory, *Ohio State University*
 Dissertation, “Ecological Models of Musical Structure in Pop-rock, 1950–2019”
 Anna Gawboy & Nicole Biamonte, directors; Daniel Shanahan, advisor

2017 Master of Music in Music Theory, *University of Massachusetts Amherst*
 Thesis, “Meter in French and Italian Opera, 1809–1859”
 Christopher Wm. White, director

2013 Bachelor of Education in Music, *Univ. of Missouri-St. Louis, Pierre Laclède Honors College*

Awards

2023	ASU Professor of Impact Award, Music Theory 1	awarded
2022	Outstanding Mentor to Master's Students, Arizona State University	nominated
2019	"Addressing Issues of Representation in Popular-music Research." Hayes Graduate Research Forum, Ohio State University	2nd place

Grants

USD unless otherwise noted

2023	N. Biamonte, L. VanHandel, B. Duinker, L. Reymore, N. Shea , C. White. "Interactions of Timbre, Texture, and Form in a Multi-Genre Popular Music Corpus." <i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Grants.</i>	\$157,222 CAD
2022	N. Shea . "Guitar Performance Practices in Popular Music Styles." <i>Herberger Institute Research Building Investment, Arizona State University</i>	\$4,985
2020	K. Knowles & N. Shea . "Hearing in time: Continuous temporal processing of musical structures in classical and popular music." <i>Herberger Institute Research Building Investment, Arizona State University</i>	\$14,910
2019	"Ecological Models of Communication in Vernacular Musical Styles." <i>OSU Center for Cognitive and Brain Sciences Summer Research Fellowship,</i> <i>OSU Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship</i>	\$5,500 \$2,120

Invited talks

2022	"Research-backed Strategies for Building Musical Fluency in Diverse Populations of Undergraduate Music Majors." <i>National Association of Schools of Music, Region 1 Session – St. Louis, MO</i>
	"Developing a Stylistically and Demographically Diverse Corpus of Timbral Features in 1990s Popular Music." <i>Society for Music Theory, Music Informatics Interest Group – New Orleans, LA</i>
2020	"Ecological Models of Guitar Performance Practice in Popular Music." <i>Science of Art Music and Brain Activity, Arizona State University</i>
2018	"Empirical Measures of Style in Popular Music." <i>Society for Music Theory, Music Informatics Interest Group – San Antonio, TX</i>
	"Instrumental Texture and Function in Popular Music." <i>Research in Music Series, University of Massachusetts Amherst – Amherst, MA</i>

Presentations

2022	N. Shea , C. White, B. Hughes, & D. Vuvan. "Meter vs. Harmony as Key Determinant in Popular Music: Which One Wins?" <i>Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting – New Orleans, LA</i>
	N. Shea , C. White, B. Hughes, & D. Vuvan. "Meter and harmony, but not musical training style, impact tonic perception in rock music." <i>Society for Music Perception and Cognition – Portland, OR</i>

- 2022 L. Reymore, M. Zeller, L. VanHandel, B. Duinker, **N. Shea**, C. White, J. Tatar, J. Roth, & N. Biamonte. "Encoding and Analyzing a New Corpus of Popular Songs."
Music Encoding Conference – Halifax, Canada
- 2021 **N. Shea**. "Open Strings as Lorentzian Wormholes: Traversing Parallel Universes in Fretboard Space." *Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting* – online due to Covid-19
- N. Shea**. "Cartesian Segmentation of Fretboard Space and Form by Style" *International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition* – online due to Covid-19
- 2020 **N. Shea**. "Inclusive Methods of Popular Music Performance Analysis."
Music Theory Midwest – Madison, WI
Music Theory Society of New York State – Hempstead, NY
- 2019 **N. Shea**, L. Glowacki, & D. Shanahan. "Performer-Generated Aspects of Musical Structure in Pop-rock." *Society for Music Perception and Cognition* – New York, NY
- N. Shea**. "Addressing Issues of Representation in Popular Music Research."
Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum – Columbus, OH
- 2018 **N. Shea**. "Do Descending Bass Lines Signal Sadness?"
C. White & **N. Shea**. "Some Influences of Chord Progressions on Accent."
Society for Music Perception and Cognition – San Diego, CA
- N. Shea**. "How Guitar (Hero) Performance Can Convey Function in Pop-rock."
N.C. Hansen & **N. Shea**. "'Too Fast for Comfort': A Historical Performance Analysis of Tempo Choice in Piano Recordings."
Music Theory Society of New York State – New York, NY
- 2017 **N. Shea**. "Meter in French and Italian Opera, 1809–1859."
Society for Music Theory – Arlington, VA
- 2017 C. White & **N. Shea**. "Do Downbeats Influence Harmonization Preferences?" *Society for Music Perception and Cognition* – San Diego, CA
- N. Shea**. "Meter in French and Italian Opera, 1809–1859."
New England Conference of Music Theorists – Amherst, MA
Music Theory Society of New York State – Geneva, NY

Teaching experience

Arizona State University

Coordinator of first-year undergraduate core curriculum. Graduate instructor.

Director of graduate Music Theory Pedagogy Certificate.

- Undergraduate Basic Music Theory (F 2020, 2021, 2022)
18th Century (S 2021, 2022)
Popular-Music Analysis (S 2023, 2024)
Independent study (S 2021, F 2021, S 2022, F 2022)
- Graduate Computational Analysis of Music (Spring 2022)
Pedagogy of Theory (F2021, 2022)
Performance Analysis (S 2021, 2023)
Analytical Techniques (F 2020)
Music Theory Pedagogy Internship (F 2020, S 2023, F 2023)

Supervisor 5–7 aural skills and music theory teaching assistants
1–2 faculty associates
3–4 music theory tutors

Ohio State University

Graduate teaching associate, instructor of record.
Music Theory I, II, III & IV (2017 – 2020)
Aural Skills I, II, III & IV (2017 – 2020)

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Teaching assistant.
Aural Skills I & II (2014 – 2017)
Music Theory I, II & III (2014 – 2017)

Parkway School District

Primary and secondary strings ensemble director. Kodály-method instructor.
2013–2014 Barretts and River Bend Elementary. Director, 3rd–5th grade
2012–2013 Parkway West Middle. Teaching assistant, 6th–8th grade

Peer reviewing

2023 *Journal of Music Theory*
Indiana Theory Review
2022 *Oxford University Press*, book manuscript
2021 *Theory and Practice*
Canadian Association of Music Libraries Review

Committees and service

Field-level service

2023– Member Anti-Racism and Equity Committee, *Society for Music Perception and Cognition*
2022– Co-chair Music Cognition Interest Group, *Society for Music Theory*
2020– Ed. board *Indiana Theory Review*

Dissertations, theses, and comprehensive exam committees

2022 Chair Taylor Simpson. *Barrett Honors Undergraduate Thesis*.
Co-chair Jessica Dodge. *DMA Saxophone Performance*.
Benjamin MacDonald. *DMA Saxophone Performance*.
Shuxiao Zhang. *DMA Piano Performance*.
Member Hugo Bauer-Bedrick & Luke Hinderaker. *Barrett Honors Thesis*.
Ryan Matejek. *DMA Tuba Performance*.
Kemi Chen. *DMA Percussion Performance*.
Sarah Core. *Barrett Honors Undergraduate Thesis*.
Joshua Oxford. *DMA Composition*.
Isaac Brady. *DMA Guitar Performance*.
Alicia Castillo. *MM Composition*.
Riley Braase. *DMA Clarinet Performance*.
Shiyu Liu. *DMA Piano Performance*.

Barrett Honors College contracts

- 2022 Director Corinne Kisicki. Musical semiotics in 19th century vocal music.
Zachary Brown. Temperament and non-Western tuning systems.
- 2021 Abigail Berg. Rhythm and meter in musical theater.
Taylor Simpson. Mathematical approaches to jazz harmony.
- 2020 Corbin Cowan. Timbre and musical meaning in popular music.
Zachary Scrabeck. Topic theory and film music.

Arizona State University committees

- 2023 Member Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor of Music Theory search.
- 2022 Assistant Professor of Music Theory search.
- 2020 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

Advisee achievements and other mentorship

Academic appointments by former music theory teaching assistants

- Jacob Chesney Adjunct Professor of Music Theory, Lipscomb University. 2022–
- Daniel Taborda-Higuera Adjunct Professor of Music, Grand Canyon University. 2022–
- Laura Brackney Adjunct Professor of Music Theory, Texas State University. 2022–
- Devin Arne Assistant Professor of Composition, West Chester University. 2021–
Adjunct Professor of Music, Cape Cod Community College. 2020–2021.
- Ziyu Wang VAP of Composition, SUNY Potsdam. 2023–
- Jessica Dodge Adjunct Professor of Music Theory, Mesa Community College. 2023–

Research assistant supervision as Co-PI of ASU Music Cognition Lab

- Graduate Nicholas G. Jordan Kah Yan Lee
- Undergraduate Mizuki Asano Nicholas Botz Alex Meixner
Sarah Core Jaclyn Connor Brett Page

Outreach and volunteer activities

- 2023 Performance Analysis Showcase at Arizona State University.
Public music theory forum hosted by students of MTC 591 Performance Analysis.
- 2021 “Popular-music Guitar Performance: Interdisciplinary approaches.”
Guest lecture to MHL 394, instructor Dr. Christi Jay Wells
- 2020 “Audio transcription techniques.”
Guest lecture to MTC 223, instructor Dr. Kristina Knowles
“Using the terminal to scrape text and links from websites.”
Open-access tutorial presented to the SMT Music Informatics Interest Group
- 2018 Graduate Music Student Association – Ohio State University
“What is Music Cognition?” Second-Year Transformational Program
- 2017 – 2020 Capital Pride Band, volunteer – Columbus, OH
- 2018 “Guitar (Hero) Performance and Musical Space.”
Franklinton Friday at the OSU STEAM Factory
- 2015 – 2017 Graduate Music Research Symposium – Amherst, MA
Creator and founder; Co-chair for Music Theory
- 2014 El Sistema String Instructor, Demetrious Johnson Foundation – St. Louis, MO

Professional development

- 2023 Workshops in Music Theory Pedagogy — Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2021 Project Spectrum Guest Speaker Workshops — online
“Critical Perspectives on Diversity Committees”
- 2018 Society for Music Theory Graduate Student Workshop – San Antonio, TX
“Issues in Popular-Music Analysis,” with Nicole Biamonte
- Engaging Students Un-conference @ OSU STEAM Factory – Columbus, OH
- 2018, cont. Diversity and Implicit Bias Awareness Program – Ohio State University
“Open Doors” “Implicit Bias” and “Race/Ethnicity” workshops
- 2017 MTSNYS Graduate Student Workshop on Music Theory Pedagogy – Geneva, NY
“Preparing music theory instructors of the (very near) future,” with Anna Gawboy
- 2016 Society for Music Theory Graduate Student Workshop – Vancouver, BC
“Meter and Form in 19th Century Music,” with Richard Cohn

References

- Anna Gawboy, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Music Theory
Ohio State University
Email: gawboy.2@osu.edu
- Daniel Shanahan, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Music Theory
Northwestern University
Email: daniel.shanahan@northwestern.edu
- Nicole Biamonte, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Music Theory
McGill University
Email: nicole.biamonte@mcgill.ca
- Christopher White, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Music Theory
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Email: cwmwhite@music.umass.edu
- Kristina Knowles, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Music Theory
Arizona State University
Email: klknowl1@asu.edu

Additional contact information available upon request.