

# Michelle Lynn Grosser

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## EDUCATION

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| <b>PhD</b> | University of Toronto, Music Theory<br>Dissertation: "Experiencing Avatar/Player Distributed Agency: The Role of the Soundtrack in Open-World Video Games."<br>Supervisor: Dr. Daphne Tan          | June 2024 |
| <b>MM</b>  | University of Texas at Austin, Music Theory<br>Master's Report: Master's Report: "Immersion in Video Games: The Influence of the Soundtrack on Player Experience."<br>Supervisor: Dr. James Buhler | May 2020  |
| <b>BA</b>  | Gettysburg College, Music<br>Thesis: "Korngold to the Movies: Korngold's Influence on Film Scores."<br>Supervisor: Dr. William O'Hara  | May 2018  |

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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| <b>Jacksonville State University</b> , Jacksonville, AL<br><b>Assistant Professor of Music Theory</b> , David L. Walters Department of Music | August 2025 – Present  |
| <b>Arkansas State University</b> , Jonesboro, AR<br><b>Instructor of Music Theory</b> , Department of Music                                  | August 2024 – May 2025 |
| <b>East Tennessee State University</b> , Johnson City, TN<br><b>Adjunct Instructor</b> , Department of Music                                 | August 2022 – May 2024 |

## PUBLICATIONS

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\* = Refereed

- Grosser, Michelle Lynn. "Music in Open-World Role-Playing Games: Skyrim and Dark Souls." *Music Theory Online*. Under Peer Review, 2025.
- Grosser, Michelle Lynn. "Philosophical Foundations of Avatar/Player Virtual Subjectivity and Their Application in Hollow Knight." *Journal of Sound and Music in Games*. Under Peer Review, 2025.
- Grosser, Michelle Lynn. "Minecraft: Volume Alpha – Daniel Rosenfeld (2011)." *Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Board*. 2025.  
[https://www.loc.gov/static/programs/national-recording-preservation-board/documents/Minecraft-Volume-Alpha\\_Grosser.pdf](https://www.loc.gov/static/programs/national-recording-preservation-board/documents/Minecraft-Volume-Alpha_Grosser.pdf)

- \*Grosser, Michelle Lynn. ““Even Though Its Completely Random: Cognitive Phenomena Surrounding the Music in *Minecraft*.” *Journal of Sound and Music in Games* 5, No. 1. 2024.
- \*Grosser, Michelle Lynn. “Avatar/Player Subjectivity: An Agential Analysis of *Crypt of the Necrodancer*.” *Journal of Sound and Music in Games* 1, No. 3. 2020.
- Grosser, Michelle Lynn. “From Korngold to the Movies: Korngold’s Influence on FilmScores.” *The Cupola*. 2018.

## PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

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\* = Refereed

- “Best Practices in Music Theory Research.” Invited lecture, A.P. Research, University School at East Tennessee State University, August 15, 2023.
- \*\*\*“Even Though It's Completely Random’ Cognitive Phenomena Surrounding the Music in *Minecraft*.” Press Start: A Video Game Music Symposium, University of North Texas, March 26, 2022 (Virtual); Invited Lecture, Form and Analysis, Gettysburg College, April 19, 2023.
- \*\*“Congruence in the Multimodal Analysis of *Wile E. Coyote and the Road Runner*.” Poster presentation. International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition / European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music, University of Sheffield, July 28, 2021 (Virtual).
- \*\*“*Crypt of the Necrodancer*: A Virtual Agential Analysis.” Music and the Moving Image, New York University, June 2, 2019; University of Toronto Graduate Music Conference, March 17, 2019.
- “From Korngold to the Movies: Korngold's Influence on Film Scores.” Sunderman Conservatory of Music Open House, November 4, 2017.

## COURSES TAUGHT

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- Jacksonville State University**, David L. Walters Department of Music      August 2025 – Present
- Music Theory I- Fundamentals of Music Theory [undergraduate core, 1 section]
  - Music Theory II- Diatonic Harmony [undergraduate core, 1 section]
  - Music Theory III- Chromatic Harmony [undergraduate core, 2 sections]
  - Music Theory IV- Post-Tonal Music [undergraduate core, 2 sections]
  - Music Theory V- Writing Intensive [undergraduate core, writing intensive, 1 section]
  - Music Theory VI- Counterpoint [undergraduate core, 1 section]
  - Aural Skills I [undergraduate core, 1 section]
- Arkansas State University**, Department of Music      August 2024 – May 2025
- Aural Skills I [undergraduate core, 1 section]
  - Music Theory III- Chromatic Harmony [undergraduate core, 2 sections]
  - Aural Skills IV- Post-Tonal Aural skills [undergraduate core, 1 section]
  - Fine Arts Music [undergraduate general education course, 1 lecture section]

**East Tennessee State University, Department of Music** August 2022 – May 2024  
Music Theory and Aural Skills I – Fundamentals of Music Theory [undergraduate core, 3 sections]  
Music Theory and Aural Skills II- Diatonic Harmony [undergraduate core, 3 sections]  
Fundamentals of Music [undergraduate core prerequisite, 1 section]  
Introduction to Music [undergraduate general education course, 1 lecture section]

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**SERVICE: DISCIPLINE**

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**University of Toronto Graduate Music Conference, 2021**

Conference Co-Organizer  
Abstract committee; chair

**University of Toronto, Graduate Music Conference, 2022**

Ludomusicology Panel; Chair

**Peer-Reviewed Articles for:**

Journal of Sound and Music in Games  
Journal of the Royal Musical Association

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**SERVICE: UNIVERSITY**

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**Jacksonville State University**

Library Liaison  
Curriculum Committee  
Assessment Committee

**Arkansas State University**

Music Theory Committee

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Society for the Study of Sound and Music in Games  
Society for Music Theory

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**LANGUAGES**

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**English:** Native Language  
**German:** Intermediate Speaking, Translation proficiency  
**Spanish:** Translation proficiency  
**French:** Translation proficiency