



University of North Texas College of Music WIND STUDIES

MUAG 5850.002/MUAG 3870.001

(T/R, 9:35–10:55am)

MUAG 5850.005/MUAG 3870.003

(M/W/F, 8:00–8:50am)

INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING

Fall Semester 2026

MPAC 132 (IRR)

Instructor: Amy Woody

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Teaching Fellow T/R: Stephan Naylor

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Course Description and Purpose

To continue to develop the knowledge and skills appropriate to professional conducting. The course will include instruction in intermediate conducting techniques, score study, rehearsal preparation and delivery, visual/aural discrimination skills, alternative movement approaches, and a reinforcement of essential musicianship. To summarize: students will study expressive gesture, critical listening, and effective rehearsal techniques

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate efficient and expressive body carriage
- Demonstrate effective baton technique
- Demonstrate the following techniques:
 - Preparatory gestures, downbeats, and releases
 - Patterns for various meters including duple/triple, simple/compound
 - Representation of a diversity of styles
 - Representation of dynamic indications
 - Independent and complimentary use of right and left arms-hand complex
 - Entrances on beats other than one and incomplete beats
 - Diversity of gestural vocabulary in the service of cues and more
 - Representation of a diversity of tempos and transitions



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- Evaluate conducting techniques by:
 - Observing and evaluating videotaped conducting experiences
 - Observing and evaluating class members
 - Evaluating two different conductors of various ensembles in rehearsal
 - Evaluating two different conductors of various ensembles in concert
 - Demonstrate visual/aural discrimination skills through rehearsal situations
 - Describe the role of the conductor in historical and philosophical perspectives
 - Refine the essential skills of musicianship in a conducting context
 - Internalize transpositions and their use in score reading through independent exercises and assignments
 - Demonstrate the ability to analyze a score with a focus on interpretation and rehearsal techniques.

Required Resources

For success in the course, each student must have the following materials:

- Baton (subject to instructor approval)
- Course/Score material packet (provided)
- Smartphone or personal video recording device
- Your major or secondary instrument as determined by the instructor

Pre-Requisites

MUAG 3800 or transfer equivalent as determined by the conducting faculty: MUTH 1380/1480/2380/2480/2390/2490.

Successful completion of the qualifying entrance examination for MUAG 3870.

Concurrent Enrollment

MULB 1806, MULB 1807, MULB 1813, or MULB 5173.500, .501, or 502

Course Requirements

Attendance/Participation: Attendance is expected for all scheduled classes. The nature of a conducting course requires active participation and interaction among all class members at all times. Absence from class on a pre-assigned conducting day will result in the student being passed over for that conducting sequence, with a grade of 0 or no credit. Excuse absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are best communicated in advance.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and the instructional team



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if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

Unexcused absences or lack of communication may result in a lowering of the final grade as follows:

- 1: No effect
- 2–3: reduction of 1 letter grade
- 4–5: reduction of 2 letter grades
- 6+ grade of WF if withdrawal requested or final grade of F

Grading Scale

100–90	A
89–80	B
79–70	C
69–60	D
60 or below	F

Written Assignments and Tests

Individual written work pertinent to the lecture material will be assigned as needed. Examples include self-evaluation of conducting experiences, as well as rehearsal observations of professional conductors, as outlined below.

Rehearsal Observations:

Each student is required to submit two completed rehearsal observations, each reflecting thirty minutes spent in a MAJOR university or professional conducted ensemble rehearsal. All reports must be typed: double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, and all margin 1 inch. The length of the typed assignments must be a minimum of one page, and a maximum of two pages with the above guidelines followed. For full credit, this assignment must be turned in at assigned time on given due dates.

Score Study and Analysis Projects:

Students will be introduced to the score study and analysis process, with a culminating project that demonstrates comprehension and application in the context of conducting. More details to follow.

Weekly Conducting Assignments and Rehearsal Labs:

Weekly conducting exercises and excerpts will be assigned and evaluated. Each student will be expected to conduct the assigned musical excerpts in class with the class members as the ensemble. the student must provide a method to record their conducting turn.

The following scores will serve as the core curriculum of the course for each conducting round, students will be assigned a particular piece (or movement as appropriate) and then assignments will rotate each



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round. Special care will be made to focus on areas of growth as well as diversity of repertoire for each conductor. Additional scores may be assigned as well.

First Suite by Gustav Holst
Lincolnshire Posy by Percy Grainger
Expanding the Canon Excerpt Book
UNT Conductors' Collegium Excerpt Book
Original Etudes for the Developing Conductor by Caldwell/Shapiro

Final Conducting Examination:

The final weeks of class will be used for the final conducting exams

Grading Procedures

The final grade is based on the following criteria

Evaluation	Percentage
Conducting Experiences	60%
Written Assignments	25%
Final Conducting Exam	15%

See the above section on attendance for details about how absences will affect the final grade.

DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Music Building: Across from the west side of the Music Commons, directly across from the elevator

Music Building: Third floor hallway, across from the staircase that comes up from the Copy Room. Next to Room 322

Music Building: Across from the Copy Room next to Room 293

Music Building: Voertman Lobby by the big double set of doors that lead out to the courtyard

Music Building: Main Office (247) under the student worker's desk

Music Annex: Next to room MA117, near the triple set of doors on the east side of the building

Music Practice Building North: First floor on the Avenue C side

Music Practice Building South: First floor on the Avenue C side

Bain Hall: First floor by the restrooms

Murchison Performing Arts Center: Located off the main lobby, beyond the grand staircase, across from the single occupancy restroom (next to the public water fountains)



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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

See: [Academic Integrity](#)

LINK: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

See: [Student Code of Conduct](#)

Link: <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

See: [Eagle Connect](#)

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

See: [ODA](#)

LINK: disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

Health and Safety Information

Students can access information about health and safety at:

<https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness>

Registration Information for Students

See: [Fall Academic Calendar Information](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Semester Calendar, Fall 2026

See: [Fall Semester Calendar](#)

Link: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

Undergraduates

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

Graduates

See: [Financial Aid](#)

LINK: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/sap>

COUNSELING AND TESTING



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UNT's Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor for students in need. Please visit the Center's website for further information:

See: Counseling and Testing

Link: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>.

For more information on mental health resources, please visit:

See: [Mental Health Resources](#)

Link: <https://disparities.unt.edu/mental-health-resources>

ADD/DROP POLICY

Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. See Academic Calendar (listed above) for additional add/drop Information.

Drop Information: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to:

See: [Student Resources](#)

Link: <https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources>

CARE TEAM

The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

See: [Care Team](#)

Link: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team>

Additional Resources for Faculty

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (including sample statement for syllabi)

See: [Faculty Guide for the Use of AI](#)

Link: <https://guides.library.unt.edu/artificial-intelligence/AIfaculty>

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

See: [FERPA](#)

Link: <http://ferpa.unt.edu/>