



FUNDAMENTALS OF CONDUCTING
MUAG 3800.001; MUAG 5805.001
SUMMER I, 2020

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Course Content:

The Fundamentals of Conducting course is designed for the development of a professional conducting approach. The course will cover beginning and intermediate conducting techniques, score analysis and preparation, development of visual and aural skills, and transposition skills.

Required materials:

- (1) Fundamentals of Conducting workbook. [Provided by instructor.]
- (2) Baton.
- ~~(3) Primary instrument. (secondary instruments as requested)~~
- (4) Video recording device.

Course Purpose:

This course partially fulfills requirements undergraduate degrees for music majors.

Expected Outcomes:

Students will have made significant improvements in knowledge and ability in the following areas:

1. Physical technique of conducting.
2. Score study and analysis.
3. Orchestral transpositions.
4. Aural skills.

Course Requirements and expectations:

This is a *skills based course*, so regular attendance is essential. (See specifics regarding class attendance on page 2.) Regular and thorough preparation for class is also required; this means *thorough* preparation of class conducting materials before each class session as well as practice of individual parts *before* each class session.

Course Times and Location:

Monday through Thursday 2:00pm – 4:20pm; online on Zoom

Final Written Exam:

Friday, July 3, 2020; 2:00pm – 4:00pm

**Grading: Conducting Assignments (cumulative) 40%; Terms Quizzes (cumulative) 10%;
Written Exams (other than final, cumulative) 20%; Final Written Exam 10%; Final Conducting Exam 10%;
Reading Quizzes 10%.**

PREREQUISITES

Junior (or higher) in good standing.
Successful completion of MUTH 2500/2510

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Attendance is expected for all scheduled classes. The nature of the course requires active participation and interaction among all class members at all times. Absences will result in a lowering of the final grade as follows:

Sections that meet THREE times per week:

- 1 no affect
- 2 reduction of 1 letter grade
- 3 reduction of 2 letter grades
- 4(+) grade of WF if withdrawal is requested, or final grade of F

*Each tardy will be counted as ½ an absence

Conducting Assignments

Weekly conducting assignments will be given and graded. Each student will be expected to conduct the assigned musical excerpts in class with the class members as the ensemble. Absence from class on a pre-assigned conducting assignment will result in the student being passed over for that conducting sequence, with a grade of zero or no credit. The instructor, in advance of the absence, may approve exceptions. The opportunity to make up a missed conducting assignment will be at the discretion of the instructor and will be rare.

Reading Assignments

The Cambridge Companion to Conducting, edited by José Antonio Bowen. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

- The Rise of Conducting – [Reading Quiz #1]
- The Central European Tradition – [Reading Quiz #2]
- The French Tradition – [Reading Quiz #3]
- The Italian Tradition – [Reading Quiz #4]
- The American Tradition – [Reading Quiz #5]
- The English Tradition – [Reading Quiz #6]
- The Russian Tradition – [Reading Quiz #7]

Terms Quizzes

Six terms quizzes will coincide with Terms Lists in the Fundamentals of Conducting workbook.

Written Exams

Tests include questions pertaining to class discussions and the Fundamentals of Conducting workbook.

Final Conducting Exam

Exam includes excerpts conducted throughout the session.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

June	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Course and syllabus overview; anatomy of the beat; basic concepts of use of gravity, acceleration/deceleration; conducting areas/planes; five basic conducting patterns; discussion of the “four hinges”; basics of transpositions.
	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Time beating in 2, 3, & 4; preparatory gestures and cut-off’s. [excerpts 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, & 4.5] •Terms Quiz #1
	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Time beating in 1, more sophisticated preparatory gestures; passive vs active gestures. [excerpts 5, 6, & 7] •Reading Quiz #1 Due by 2:00pm
	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Separation of hands exercises. •Written Exam #1 -- Basic conducting concepts; review transpositions; terms, all concepts discussed to this point. •Reading Quiz #2 Due by 2:00pm
	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Conducting in divided patterns; more sophisticated conducting using passive vs active gestures; cues. [excerpts 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13] •Terms Quiz #2
	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fermatas [excerpts 14, 15, 16, & 17] •Reading Quiz #3 Due by 2:00pm
	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continue work of all previous excerpts, materials, and concepts. •Review Clefs and Transpositions •Terms Quiz #3
	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written Exam #2 – Concepts re expressive gestures, cueing, and separation of hands, transpositions, plus all material from Exam #1. •Separation of hands exercises. •Score study discussion. •Reading Quiz #4 Due by 2:00pm
	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Terms Quiz #4 •baton grip and use. •Irregular time signatures. [excerpts 18, 19, 20, & 20.5]
	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Irregular time signatures. [excerpts 18, 19, 20, & 20.5] •Reading Quiz #5 Due by 2:00pm
	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •More sophisticated style gestures (staccato/legato/sostenuto/gesture of syncopation) [excerpts 21, 22, & 23] •Terms Quiz #5
	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review Clefs and Transpositions •Separation of hands exercises. •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpt 24] •Reading Quiz #6 Due by 2:00pm
	29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpt 24] •Terms Quiz #6
	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpt 24] •Reading Quiz #7 Due by 2:00pm
July	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continue work from previous weeks and review of all excerpts, materials, and concepts. •Review for Final Written Exam and Final Conducting Exam •Harmonic Analysis for Beethoven – Overture to Egmont [excerpt] Due by 2:00pm
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Final Conducting Exam
	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Final Written Exam

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.003.AcadIntegrity.Final_.pdf

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

LINK: Student Code of Conduct - <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

LINK: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ODA STATEMENT

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

UNT Policy Statement on Diversity

LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/04.018_PolicyStateOnDiversity.pub8_.18_0.pdf

2019-2020 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

LINK: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2019-2020

LINK: <https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2019-20/calendar>

Final Exam Schedule

LINK: <http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

FINANCIAL AID AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

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

RETENTION OF STUDENT RECORDS

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

COUNSELING AND TESTING

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

ADD/DROP POLICY

LINK: <https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

COVID-19 impact on attendance

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me *prior to being absent* as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.