



**FUNDAMENTALS OF CONDUCTING
MUAG 3800, SECTION 001
SUMMER I, 2019**

Instructor Dr. Clay Couturiaux, Assistant Director of Orchestral Studies

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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.

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; Murchison Performing Arts Center - IRR

**Grading: Conducting Assignments (cumulative) 40%; Terms Quizzes (cumulative) 20%;
Written Exams (cumulative) 20%; Final Written Exam 10%; Final Conducting Exam 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:

- 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

Each student will be expected to conduct the assigned musical excerpts in class with the class members as the ensemble and will receive a grade for each assignment. 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.

Terms Quizzes

Three terms quizzes will coincide with Terms of a General Nature, Terms Affecting the Tempo and Time-Beating, and Terms Affecting the Handling of the Instruments Themselves.

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	3	<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.
	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Terms Quiz #1 •Gravity exercises and other basic conceptual work. •Time beating in 2, 3, & 4; preparatory gestures and cut-off’s. [excerpts 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, & 4.5]
	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Time beating in 1, more sophisticated preparatory gestures; passive vs active gestures. [excerpts 5, 6, & 7]
	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Written Exam #1 -- Basic conducting concepts; review transpositions; terms, all concepts discussed to this point. •Separation of hands exercises.
	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Terms Quiz #2 •Conducting in divided patterns; more sophisticated conducting using passive vs active gestures; cues. [excerpts 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13]
	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fermatas [excerpts 14, 15, 16, & 17]
	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continue work of all previous excerpts, materials, and concepts. •Review Clefs and Transpositions
	13	<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.
	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Terms Quiz #3 •baton grip and use. •Irregular time signatures. [excerpts 18, 19, 20, & 20.5]
	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Irregular time signatures. [excerpts 18, 19, 20, & 20.5]
	26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •More sophisticated style gestures (staccato/legato/sostenuto/gesture of syncopation) [excerpts 21, 22, & 23]
	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review Clefs and Transpositions •Separation of hands exercises. •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpts 24, 25, 26, 27]
July	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpts 24, 25, 26, 27]
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tempo changes, changes of texture, and cueing. [excerpts 24, 25, 26, 27]
	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continue work from previous weeks and review of all excerpts, materials, and concepts. •Review for Written Exam #3 and Final Conducting Exam
	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Final Written Exam and Final Conducting Exam

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

LINK: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/dcgcover/resources/integrity>

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]

2018-2019 Semester Academic Schedule (with Add/Drop Dates)

LINK: <http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=20&navoid=2120>

Academic Calendar at a Glance, 2018-2019

LINK: <https://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2018-19/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>

RESPONDING TO STUDENTS IN DISTRESS: UNT CARE TEAM

LINK: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>