

Basic Conducting, MUMS 248—Spring 2012
MWF 11:30a-12:35p, Lab: 8-9:05a Fridays
Paul Wiens, Professor, online at paulwiens.com
Revised: 12/13/11

Outcomes

As a result of the student's participation in Basic Conducting, the student will be able to demonstrate skills with:

1. Vocabulary/Syntax—accuracy and proper sequencing of conducting gestures
 2. Expression—strength of conducting gestures, clear and powerful communication
 3. Baton Hand—proper coordination of right hand gestures, posture, size, placement
 4. Expression Hand—independence from right hand, effective left hand cues, dynamics, articulation, general support
 5. Psychological Connection—strength in connecting with performers through eye contact, posture, attitude
 6. Score Preparation—demonstrated in performance, security (not getting lost), awareness and execution of detail, error detection and correction
-

Materials

1. Required—book and software: (Wheaton College Bookstore)
 - a. *Expressive Conducting*, Version 3, Paul Wiens, **Scores** bundled with software on DVD rom. The software comes with a 15-day free trial.
 - b. Activation Code for unlimited access to the DVD rom software may be purchased online at ExpressiveConducting.com Cost is \$48.
 2. Required—baton: (Wheaton College Bookstore)
 - a. Professional baton: GL Custom, Premier, or Newland baton.
 3. Required—4GB SDHC card (Office Max or Amazon.com)
 4. Required—tempo device:
 - a. iPhone or iPad app: Tempo Tapper OR
 - b. Tempo Watch by C. Effinger (expensive, outdated)
-

Procedures

Class & Lab time: In order to preserve time for student conducting, you are asked to prepare new material before it is introduced in class. Following the introduction of new material, each student will be asked to conduct scores as assigned. All conducting students will participate in the class and lab ensemble. Please bring your instrument to each class and lab session.

Video Capture: Review of your work using video capture/playback is an important step in maximizing your educational experience. Capture class work by inserting your memory card into the Professor's video camera. To view the video file on your memory card, you may play it with VLC or import it into iMovie (on your laptop). To clear your card for future video capture, delete movies from your card, AND before removing the card from your laptop, EMPTY THE TRASH to complete the deletion. If you don't empty the trash, the delete will be incomplete and your card may not have space for your next video capture in class.

Schedule

Dates	Chapter (*assessment)
9 January	Chapter 1—Notes: Fundamentals
11	Chapter 1—Scores
13 Lab 1	Basic Lab 1
13 Class	Chapter 1—Scores
16	MLK
18	Chapter 2—Measures: expression
20 Lab 2	Basic Lab 2
20 Class	Chapter 2—Scores
23	Chapter 2—Scores
25	Chapter 3—Ties: breaking the tyranny of the bar line
27 Lab 3	Choral Lab 3: rehearsal of an accompanied choral fragment in English
27 Class	Chapter 3—Scores
30	Chapter 3—Scores
1 February	Chapter 4—Rests: preparation and release on the beat
3 Lab 4	Basic Lab 4
3 Class	Chapter 4—Scores
6	Chapter 4—Scores
8	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 2, 3, 4
10 Lab 5	Choral Lab 5: 1 st <i>a cappella</i> rehearsal with accompanist
10 Class	Chapter 5—Dynamics: changing dynamics, setting tempo
13	Chapter 5—Scores
15	Chapter 5—Scores
17 Lab 6	Basic Lab 6
17 Class	Chapter 6—Adagio: division of the beat
20	President's Day—No Class
22	Chapter 6—Scores
24 Lab 7	Choral Lab 7: 2 nd <i>a cappella</i> rehearsal w/o accompanist
24 Class	Chapter 6—Scores
27	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 5 & 6
29	Chapter 7—Fractions: entry & exit, GoS

Dates	Chapter (*assessment)
2 March Lab 8	Basic Lab 8
2 Class	Chapter 7—Scores
3-11	Spring Break
12	Chapter 7—Scores
14	Chapter 8—Compound Meter: six, nine and twelve
16 Lab 9	Choral Lab 9
16 Class	Chapter 8—Scores
19	Chapter 8—Scores
21	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapter 7 & 8
23 Lab 10	Basic Lab 10
23 Class	Chapter 9—Articulation: style & gesture
26	Chapter 9—Scores
28	Chapter 9—Scores
30 Lab 11	Choral Lab 11
30 Class	Chapter 10—Fermata
2 April	Chapter 10—Scores
4	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapter 9 & 10
6	Good Friday—No Class
9	Chapter 11—Scores
11	Chapter 11—Entrances: Cuing
13 Lab 12	Choral Lab 12, Round One Exam
13 Class	Chapter 12—Changing Meter
16	Chapter 12—Scores
18	Chapter 12—Scores
20 Lab 13	Basic Lab 13
20 Class	Chapter 13—Asymmetrical Meter: foundation restructured
23	Chapter 13—Scores
25	Chapter 14—Special Topics: Recitative & Proportions
27 Lab 14	Choral Lab 14: Round Two Exam
27 Class	Chapter 14—Scores
30	Reading Day
1 May Tuesday 1:30-3:30p	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 11, 12, 13 & 14

Written Assignments & Exams

1. Write one four-page paper regarding your observations of:
 - a. One hour of Soloist & Aria rehearsal, 11:30a-2p, Wednesday, March 21, College Church
 - b. One hour of Tutti Orchestra & Chorus rehearsal, 3:15-5:45, Wednesday, March 21, College Church
 - c. One hour of Dress Rehearsal, 1-4p, Thursday, March 22, College Church
 - d. Complete performance, 7:30p, Friday, March 23, College Church
 - e. Clear your schedule before January 30, 2012. Alternative assignments are possible only if discussed with the professor PRIOR to 2/1/12.
2. Self-Assessment for Conducting Exams
 - a. Conducting exams will be captured using TWO video cameras. You are to capture your performance on your own card on the student camera; the professor will capture the entire class's performance on the professor's camera. Your professor will email you an attachment--an interactive PDF Self-Assessment document--that you will open and enter your self-assessment information. Then you will print the completed document and hand in to the instructor **one week** following the exam. When you hand in your Self Assessment, the instructor will hand you the Prof's Assessment of your exam.
3. You MUST use Adobe Acrobat Reader to complete the Self-Assessment document. ...DO NOT use Apple's Preview software, DO NOT complete using longhand.

Grades

Your final grade will be computed following these guidelines:

Conducting exams= 80%
Written assignments = 10%
Attendance = 10%

At the conclusion of the semester, *grades will be curved and decompressed* with the result that your final grade will more accurately reflect summative evaluation and meet normative standards. . . thus you should anticipate some difference between your personal calculation based on running totals and the final grade.