MUS 361 Conducting I – Fall, 2011

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Office hours:  MW 10:00-11:00am, TTH 3:00-4:00 pm, or by appointment.

Course Description
Conducting I is an introduction to basic conducting skills with an emphasis on the
art and study of conducting, baton technique, left hand technique, non-verbal
communication, leadership, conducting terminology, transpositions and score
reading.

Course Objectives
• Develop basic conducting techniques for a variety of meter, tempi and styles.
• Acquire knowledge concerning the terminology necessary for successful
conducting.
• Establish basic physical gestures with the right and left hands, plus a non-
verbal repertoire.
• Increased knowledge of musical terminology, transposition and score study.
• Exploring and developing the leadership skills necessary for successful
conducting and musical leadership.

Course Materials
• Text:  Bailey, Wayne. Conducting: The Art of Communication,
• Flash Drive, USB
• Instructor Approved Baton

Course Projects
• Conducting class ensemble- students will conduct class ensemble consisting
  of members of the conducting class.
• Individual review of video with professor- individual appointments with
  instructor to review video of class conducting.
• Online “YouTube” conductor reviews
• Observation journal of conducting faculty- throughout the semester students
  will observe conductors at ISU other than the ensemble in which they
  perform and then write a journal of the observation.
• Outside class reading assignments- readings are provided as PDFs online.’
• Final Notebook to be handed in at the end of the year

Students with Disabilities
If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this
course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please request that the
Student Disability Resource staff send a SAAR form verifying your disability and
specifying the accommodation you will need.
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Attendance
The presence and class participation of each individual is essential for progress individually and collectively. Attendance at all class meetings is mandatory. In all cases, excluding serious illness and unforeseen emergencies, documentation will be required before the absence occurs for it to be considered excused. All requests for excused absences will be submitted in writing directly to me no later than two weeks prior to the requested absence.

For each unexcused absence your grade can drop 5%, reflective of the final grade. Punctuality and professional behavior is essential to your success as a student, professional musician, future teacher and future conductor. For every two classes you are late, it will equal one absence and your grade will drop 5%.

The determination of excused absences and tardies will be at the discretion of the professor.

Assignments, quizzes, and written exams will be handed in/administered at the beginning of class on the day the assignment is due. Handing in assignments at a later date or taking a quiz, and written or conducting exam on a different date will not be allowed. In the case of serious illness and unforeseen emergencies, consideration will be made.

Grading Criteria
Conducting Exams 30%
Conducting/Online Observations 10%
Homework Assignments 10%
Mid Term Exam 20%
Final Project Notebook 30%

Grading Scale
94-100% = A
90-93%  = A-
87-89%  = B+
84-86%  = B
80-83%  = B-
77-79%  = C+
74-76%  = C
70-73%  = C-
67-69%  = D+
64-66%  = D
60-63%  = D-
59 and below = Failing
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Week I
M -  Introductions, Review Syllabus
   Language of Conducting
   Conductor as Musical Leader #1
   Read: Ch. 1 & 2 – Bailey
   Leadership Folder #1 – WebCT
W -  Posture, Stance, Position, Hinges
   The Beat, Plane
   Read: Ch. 3 – Bailey
   Exercises: 120 v. 60
F -  Posture, Stance, Position, Hinges - Continued
   Exercises: Horizontal/Vertical Line (green p. 5-6)
   A-Ok (Thumb position practice)
   Circles/Figure Eights

Week II
M -  Conductor as Musical Leader #2
   Batons, Grip
   The Beat with a Baton
   Read: Leadership Folder #2 - WebCT
   Ch. 3 - Green
W -  Prep beats and releases
   Read: Bailey - pp. 18-19, 39-41
   Green - pp. 12 -15
F -  Intro to Pattern design, Transpositions,
    Types of Scores
   Read: Bailey – pp. 19-25, 113-122
   Green – Ch. 12
   Hunsberger – pp. 54-61

Week III
9/5  Labor Day - No Class
9/7  Observation #1 Due
   Conducting #1 - 3/2/4 Patterns
F   Conducting #1 - 3/2/4 Patterns

Week IV
M -  Conducting #1 - 3/2/4 Patterns
W -  Conducting #1 - 3/2/4 Patterns
F -  Conducting #1 - 3/2/4 Patterns
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Week V
M - Conductor as Musical Leader #3
   Introduction to Score Study
   Read: Bailey – pp. 27-32
   Leadership Folder #3 – WebCT
W - Conducting #2 - 1/5/7 Patterns
F - Conducting #2 - 1/5/7 Patterns

Week VI
M - Conducting #2 - 1/5/7 Patterns
9/28 **Observation #2 is Due**
   Conducting #2 - 1/5/7 Patterns
F - Conducting #2 - 1/5/7 Patterns

Week VII
M - Conductor as Musical Leader #4
   Read: Bailey – pp. 33-35
   Leadership Folder #4 - WebCT
W - Conducting #3 – 6 Patterns
F - Conducting #3 – 6 Patterns

Week VIII
M - Conducting #3 – 6 Patterns
W - Conducting #3 – 6 Patterns
10/14 **Mid-Term Exam**

Week IX
M - Read: Bailey – pp. 42-43
W - Conducting #4 – Pick-up Beats
F - Conducting #4 – Pick-up Beats

Week X
M - Conducting #4 – Pick-up Beats
W - Conducting #4 – Pick-up Beats
F - Conducting #4 – Pick-up Beats
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Week XI
10/31 Observation #3 Due
   Read: Bailey- pp. 43-45
W - Conducting #5 - Subdivision
F - Conducting #5 - Subdivision

Week XII
M - Conducting #5 - Subdivision
W - Conducting #5 - Subdivision
F - Conducting #5 - Subdivision

Week XIII
M - Conducting #6 – Mixed Patterns/Releases
W - Conducting #6 – Mixed Patterns/Releases
F - Conducting #6 – Mixed Patterns/Releases

Week XIV
No Class Thanksgiving Break

Week XV
M - Conducting #6 – Mixed Patterns/Releases
W - Conducting #6 – Mixed Patterns/Releases
12/2 Review, course evaluations
   Notebook Due