

2014

MUSC 420-01 Conducting I

Jim Daughters

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MUSC 420-01

Conducting I | Fall Semester 2014

Jim Daughters
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Office Hours: MWF 11-12pm or by appointment
Class Meetings: MWF 12-12:50pm – Edgecliff 201

Required Books & Materials

- Phillips, Kenneth. *Basic Techniques of Conducting*, Oxford Press, 1997.
- Conducting Baton (approved by instructor)
- notebook

Course Objectives & Goals

After completion of this course, the student will have:

1. An understanding of the fundamental motor skills required for conducting.
2. The ability to express musical concepts through effective conducting gestures.
3. Developed an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the conductor.
4. Increased confidence in leading a musical ensemble.

In addition, students will be able to:

1. Conduct basic patterns.
2. Communicate phrasing.
3. Define common score markings.
4. Conduct changes in meter, tempo, and dynamics.
5. Demonstrate effective conducting postures and hand positions.
6. Demonstrate independence between the right and left hands.
7. Use their acquired knowledge of conducting fundamentals to evaluate other conductors as well as their own conducting skill through the use of video observations.

Attendance and Assignment Policy

Students are expected to attend every class session and to be on time. Participation in class discussions and presentations is a vital part of this course. **Late attendance is marked as an absence.** Official travel and similar absences must be documented by a written Dean's excuse. An unexcused absence will be recorded when the instructor was not notified in advance of a legitimate reason for an absence. **Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% deduction from the final class average.**

All assignments and projects are due at the beginning of class on the due date. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** No make-up tests will be given unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Most important, please be assured that I want students to learn and receive the good grades they deserve. Please make an appointment with me should you have undue difficulty with your work in the course.

Conducting Practice

You are expected to average no less than 10 minutes per day for each week enrolled in the class (70 minutes per week).

Grading

Digital Concert Hall conductor reviews (6) 25%

Videotaping and self-assessments (7) 25%

Peer evaluations (in class) 10%

Midterm terminology exam (1) 10%

Conductor bio presentation (1) 15%

Final conducting exam including notebook (1) 15%

GRADING SCALE

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

59% - below = Failing

Assignments

Videotape & Self-Assessments: Brief, one page review of your conducting. Please cover both positives and negatives - strengths and weaknesses. **These are due within 2 classes of videotaping which will be posted on a private YouTube channel.**

Peer Evaluations: Brief paragraph offering PCP (positive-corrective-positive) to each conductor during videotaping.

Conductor Reviews: Brief, one page review of conductors appearing on a concert or rehearsal on the Digital Concert Hall.

Conductor Bios: 5-10 minute presentation utilizing technology (no paper required).

Final Conducting Exam: Conducting a piece of your choosing with recording. You must have the score available. Piece needs to be no shorter than 3 minutes.

2014 Fall Semester Schedule

M	25-Aug	Syllabus, Lesson 1: Study of Conducting, Class Organization, Course Requirements, What is a Conductor?
W	27-Aug	Lesson 2: Posture and Position, Preparatory Gesture, Baton Selection, Using the Metronome
F	29-Aug	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	1-Sept	No Class
W	3-Sept	Lesson 3: The Four Pattern, Elements of the Pattern, Internal and Final Releases
F	5-Sept	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	8-Sept	Lesson 4: The Four Pattern, Varying the Articulation, Tempo Terminology (CR1 DUE)
W	10-Sept	Lesson 5: Videotaping #1
F	12-Sept	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	15-Sept	Lesson 6: The Three Pattern, The Two Pattern, The Daily Dozen, Terminology for Dynamics
W	17-Sept	Lesson 7: Dynamic Changes
F	19-Sept	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	22-Sept	Lesson 8: Baton Grip, Character Terminology (CR2 DUE)
W	24-Sept	Lesson 9: Videotaping #2
F	26-Sept	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	29-Sept	Lesson 10: The One Pattern, Midterm Preparation, Release on One, Accent, Articulation, and Connecting Terms
W	1-Oct	Lesson 11: Release on Beat Two, Entrance on a Pickup Note, Midterm Preparation
F	3-Oct	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	6-Oct	Lesson 12: Videotaping #3 (CR3 DUE)
W	8-Oct	Lesson 13: Videotaping #4
F	10-Oct	NO CLASS
M	13-Oct	Midterm Conducting Exam Part 1
W	15-Oct	Midterm Conducting Exam Part 2
F	17-Oct	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	20-Oct	Lesson 16: Functions of the Left Hand, The Circle Drill (CR4 DUE)
W	22-Oct	Lesson 17: Left Hand Sustaining Gestures, Coordinating the Two Hands
F	24-Oct	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	27-Oct	Lesson 18: Left Hand Strengthening Techniques, Repeat Markings
W	29-Oct	Lesson 19: Videotaping #5
F	31-Oct	CONDUCTOR'S LAB????
M	3-Nov	Lesson 20: Subdivision, Cues, Alto and Tenor Clefs (CR5 DUE)
W	5-Nov	Lesson 21: Composer's Intent, Listener's Response
F	7-Nov	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	10-Nov	Lesson 22: Entrances on Incomplete Beats and Lesson 25: Asymmetric Meters and Changing Meters
W	12-Nov	Lesson 23: Videotaping #6
F	14-Nov	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	17-Nov	Lessons 24: Compound Meters, Instrumental Transpositions (CR6 DUE)
W	19-Nov	Lesson 25: Asymmetric Meters, Changing Meters
F	21-Nov	CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	24-Nov	Lesson 26: Videotaping #7
W	26-Nov	NO CLASS
F	28-Nov	NO CLASS
M	1-Dec	Lesson 27: Accents, Tempo Alterations, Section Cues
W	3-Dec	Conductor Bio Presentations
F	5-Dec	FINAL CONDUCTOR'S LAB
M	8-Dec	Finish Bio Presentations
W	10-Dec	Final Exam Day 1
F	12-Dec	Final Exam Day 2

Syllabus is subject to change with advance notice.

Conductors You Should Know...

Carl Maria von Weber
Eugene Ormandy
Max Rudolf
Hermann Scherchen
Serge Koussevitzky
Sir Adrian Boult
Arthur Nikisch
Wilhelm Furtwangler
Leopold Stokowski
Leonard Bernstein
Felix Weingartner
Richard Strauss
Felix Mendelssohn
Bruno Walter
Edwin Franko Goldman
Hector Berlioz
Ludwig Spohr
Hans von Bulow
Patrick Gilmore
Hans Richter
Gustav Mahler
Arturo Toscanini
Otto Klemperer
Erich Kleiber
J. B. Lully
Michael Tilson-Thomas
Leonard Slatkin
Pierre Boulez
Carlos Kleiber
Simon Rattle
Herbert von Karajan
Zubin Mehta
Seiji Ozawa
Fritz Reiner
Robert Shaw
Georg Solti
William Steinberg
William D. Revelli

H. Robert Reynolds
Valery Gergiev
Sir Thomas Beecham
Oskar Fried
Willem Mengelberg
Frederick Fennell
Sir Colin Davis
Sergiu Celibidache
Claudio Abbado
Carlo Maria Giulini
Esa-Pekka Salonen
André Previn
Kurt Masur
Lorin Maazel
Bernard Haitink
Daniel Barenboim
Paavo Jarvi
Erich Kunzel
James Levine
Franz Welser-Möst
Christoph von Dohnányi
George Szell
Christoph Eschenbach
Craig Jessop
Ann Howard Jones
Simon Carrington
Anton Armstrong
Andre Thomas
Rodney Eichenberger