

Basic Conducting, MUMS 248—Spring 2010
MWF 11:30a-12:35p, Lab: 8-9:05a Fridays
Paul Wiens, Professor, online at paulwiens.com
Revised: 2/19/10

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
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Materials

1. Required—book and software:
 - a. *Expressive Conducting*, Version 3, Paul Wiens, **Scores** bundled with software on DVD rom. Cost at Wheaton College Bookstore is \$50. 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:
 - a. Professional baton: GL Custom, Premier, or Newland baton. Cost at Wheaton College Bookstore is about \$30.
 3. Required—The college bookstore carries the 4GB SDHC card
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Procedures & Schedules

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. 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 Canon FS100 camera. To view the video file on your memory card, you must import it into iMovie '08 (your Mac laptop or a computer in the Mac Lab).

Periodic exams will be captured and burned to a video DVD for review in Buswell Library—each DVD will be put on reserve within 48 hours of the exam. Open the self-Assessment document found at <http://www.conducting.us>, enter your information, print and hand one copy to the instructor no later than one week following the exam. When you hand in your Self Assessment, the instructor will hand you the Prof's Assessment of your exam.

Dates	Chapter (*assessment)
11 January	Chapter 1—Notes: Fundamentals
13	Chapter 1—Scores
15 Lab 1	Basic Conducting: Fundamentals
15 Class	Chapter 1—Scores
18	MLK
20	Chapter 2—Measures: expression
22 Lab 2	Basic Conducting: Measures
22 Class	Chapter 2—Scores
25	Chapter 2—Scores
27	Chapter 3—Ties: breaking the tyranny of the bar line
29 Lab 3	Choral Conducting: rehearsal of an accompanied choral fragment in English
29 Class	Chapter 3—Scores
1 February	Chapter 3—Scores
3	Chapter 4—Rests: preparation and release on the beat
5 Lab 4	Basic Conducting: Ties/Rests (Wiens class)
5 Class	Chapter 4—Scores
8	Chapter 4—Scores
10	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 2, 3, 4
12 Lab 5	Basic Conducting: (Sommerville class)
12 Class	Chapter 5—Dynamics: changing dynamics, setting tempo
15	President's Day
17	Chapter 5—Scores
19 Lab 6	Choral Conducting: 1 st <i>a cappella</i> rehearsal
19 Class	Chapter 5—Scores
22	Chapter 6—Adagio: division of the beat
24	Chapter 6—Scores
26 Lab 7	Choral Conducting: 2 nd <i>a cappella</i> rehearsal
26 Class	Chapter 6—Scores
1 March	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 5 & 6
3	Chapter 7—Fractions: entry & exit, GoS
5 Lab 8	Basic Conducting: Adagio & Fractions

Dates	Chapter (*assessment)
5 Class	Chapter 7—Scores
6-14	Spring Break
15	Chapter 7—Scores
17	Chapter 8—Compound Meter: six, nine and twelve
19 Lab 9	Choral Conducting: 1 st Rehearsal of choral fragment from the Brahms <i>Requiem</i>
19 Class	Chapter 8—Scores
22	Chapter 8—Scores
24	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapter 7 & 8
26 Lab 10	Basic Conducting: Compound Meter & Articulation
26 Class	Chapter 9—Articulation: style & gesture
29	Chapter 9—Scores
31	Chapter 9—Scores
2 April	Good Friday
5	Chapter 10—Fermata
7	Chapter 10—Scores
9 Lab 11	Choral Conducting: 2 nd Rehearsal of choral fragment from the Brahms <i>Requiem</i>
9 Class	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapter 9 & 10
12	Chapter 11—Entrances: Cuing
14	Chapter 11—Scores
16 Lab 12	Basic Conducting: Fermata & Cuing
16 Class	Chapter 12—Changing Meter
19	Chapter 12—Scores
21	Chapter 12—Scores
23 Lab 13	Choral Conducting Final Exam: Schubert <i>Mass in G</i> with chorus, string orchestra & organ
23 Class	Chapter 13—Asymmetrical Meter: foundation restructured
26	Chapter 13—Scores
28	Chapter 14—Special Topics: Recitative & Proportions
30 Lab 14	Choral Conducting Final Exam: Schubert <i>Mass in G</i> with chorus, string orchestra & organ
30 Class	Chapter 14—Scores
3 May	Reading Day
5 May, Wed, 1:30-3:30p	*Exam—Conducting Scores: Chapters 11, 12, 13 & 14

Written Assignments

1. Write a three-page paper—due one week following the concert--regarding your observations at a final rehearsal and concert by the Concert Choir. Choose either:
 - a. One rehearsal on March 24 or 25, 4:30-6p and the concert March 26, 8p all in Edman Chapel. Check with professor regarding the exact location of rehearsals.
 - b. Clear your schedule before January 30, 2009. Alternative assignments are possible only if discussed with the professor PRIOR TO 2/1/09.
2. Periodic exams marked with an asterisk will be captured and burned to a video DVD for review in Buswell Library—each DVD will be put on reserve within 48 hours of the exam. Open the Self-Assessment document found at <http://www.conducting.us>, enter your information, print and hand one copy to the instructor no later than one week following the exam. When you hand in your Self Assessment, the instructor will give you the Prof's Assessment of your exam.

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.