



**MOREHEAD STATE
UNIVERSITY**

MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

**COURSE SYLLABUS
INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING
MUSC 472 001**

SPRING SEMESTER, 2020



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INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING

MUSC 472 001
SPRING SEMESTER, 2020

Instructor:

Dr. DuWayne C. Dale
114 Baird Music Hall
Office Hours: T/TH 10:30am-12:00pm, others by appointment
dcdale@moreheadstate.edu

Class

T/TH 9:30am-10:20am, BMH Room 117 (2 credits).

Meeting Times:

**Catalog Course
Description:**

MUSC 471 - Instrumental Conducting. Baton technique, rehearsal procedures and style and interpretation of instrumental works. Prerequisite: MUSC 271.

**NASM Competencies /
Student Learning
Outcomes (SLOs):**

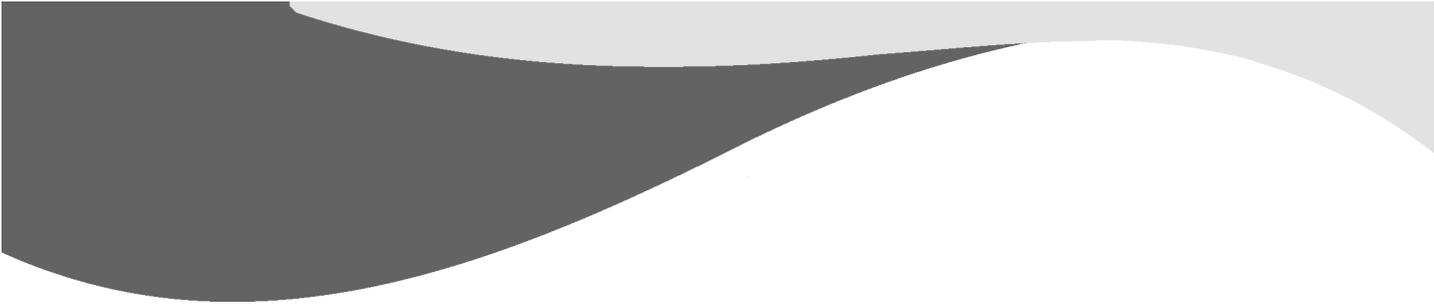
The Instrumental Conducting Class will expand upon the conducting skills gained in MUSC 271.

The instrumental conducting student must acquire:

- Technical skills requisite for artistic self-expression in at least one major performance area at a level appropriate for the particular music concentration
- An overview understanding of the repertory in their major performance area and the ability to perform from a cross-section of that repertory
- Knowledge and skills sufficient to work as a leader and in collaboration on matters of musical interpretations. Rehearsal and conducting skills are required as appropriate to the particular music concentration
- Growth in artistry, technical skills, collaborative competence and knowledge of repertory through regular ensemble experiences

The instrumental conducting student must demonstrate:

- The ability to prepare a music score and to prepare for teaching and conducting elements contained within
- Appropriate skills to effectively communicate with an instrumental ensemble through gesture
- The necessary listening skills to be an effective conductor and educator
- An understanding of transpositions for most instruments
- An understanding of a directed listening hierarchy and the ability to apply this knowledge to an ensemble rehearsal
- The ability to accurately diagnose ensemble playing errors and provide concise, accurate feedback



**Required Texts
and Materials:**

Methods and Materials for Conducting. Douglas Stotter, GIA Publications, 2006
ISBN-13: 978-1579995515

Error Detection: Exercises for the Instrumental Conductor. Robert Spradling, Carl Fisher, 2010
ISBN-13: 978-0825872129

Conducting Baton (must meet with instructor approval)

Primary or secondary instrument in working order

Metronome or Metronome app (must be able to subdivide 16th notes and triplets)

Original score for *First Suite in Eb* by Gustav Holst

Original score for *Irish Tune from County Derry* by Percy Grainger

**Recommended
Reading:**

The Conductor as Leader: principles of Leadership Applied to Life on the Podium. Ramona M. Wis, GIA Publications, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-1579996536

On Becoming a Conductor: Lessons and Meditations on the Art of Conducting. Frank L. Battisti, Meridith Music Publications, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-1574630862

Basic Conducting Techniques, 7th Edition. Joseph A. Labuta and Wendy K. Matthews, Routledge, 2017. ISBN-13: 978-1138656987

Conducting Nuances: Little Things Mean a Lot. Anthony Maiello, GIA Publications, 2007.
ISBN-13: 978-1579997151

*Supplemental required reading from the above texts will be provided



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Attendance: Pursuant to UAR 131.05, "Prompt and regular class attendance is the responsibility of all students. Students should be aware that excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may affect their ability to earn a passing grade. University excused absences are grouped into five categories: 1) University-Sponsored Activities; 2) Student/Family Illness/Death; 3) Military Obligations; 4) Jury Duty or Subpoena for Court Appearances; and 5) Major Religious Holidays." Refer to UAR 131.05 for specifics on student attendance: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/MSU/media/UARs/UAR-131-05-Excused-Absences-Policy.pdf>

Excused absences sometimes occur (absences that fall under the UAR 103.05 guidelines above and for which the notifications instructions below have been followed). Despite excused status, though, absenteeism prevents a student from being able to receive instruction, practice requisite skills, participate in class discussions and activities, and may even impact fellow classmates. To that end, up to THREE (3) excused absences will be accepted without any negative impact to the student's course grade. Each absence beyond that point, even if excused according to UAR 103.05 and our course notification instructions, will result in a **one full letter-grade deduction** in final course grade.

Each unexcused absence from a scheduled class meeting will result in a **one-half letter-grade deduction**. Each unexcused tardy/early departure—defined as not being present with all necessary supplies and equipment at the scheduled start of the class or leaving before the scheduled end of class—will count as one half of an unexcused absence.

A student who accumulates SEVEN (7) class absences (approx. 25% of class meetings), regardless of excused/unexcused status, will fail the course.

Notification Instructions: For a class tardy, class absence, or early departure, the student must fill out an excused absence request form in the band office in advance of anticipated absences or immediately following emergency/unanticipated absences. **Any tardy/absence/early departure for which this form is not submitted will automatically be considered unexcused.** These forms are also available on our class Blackboard page, but must be submitted to the band office. Most, if not all tardies/absences/early departures will require additional documentation in order to be considered for an excused absence. Absences for illness, for example, also require a note from a healthcare professional that includes the date(s)/time(s) in question to be considered excused. Students are expected to take care of these matters in a professional and timely manner. Submission of an excused absence request form does not automatically excuse the absence, especially if the absence does not fall under stipulations of UAR 103.05 (above). Again, accumulating seven (7) class absences, even if all are excused, will result in failure of the class.

Late Work Policy: Absence does not excuse the student from submitting course work on time or from completing course work assigned during the absence. Assignments will have a specific due date and time; any work submitted after the due date/time will be considered late. Late work will be accepted for 24 hours following the due date/time. The work will be graded, but the grade for all late work will be reduced by 50%. Work submitted more than 24 hours past the due date/time will not be graded and will receive a grade of "0."

Grading:

Students' grade will be assessed according to accumulated points. Specific assessment criteria via an assignment rubric will always be provided at the time of assignment. See the assignment overview contained in this syllabus for more information about each assignment and assessment.

Grading Scale:

A	=	323-360 points	(90-100%)
B	=	288-322 points	(80-90%)
C	=	251-287 points	(70-79%)
D	=	215-250 points	(60-69%)
E	=	0-214 points	(0-59%)

Note - point totals include rounding; total available points for the course as well as the listed ranges for designated letter grades may vary if course assignments are adjusted

Concert Band Conducting (Special Course Requirement):

In order to provide instrumental conducting students with as many authentic conducting experiences as possible, each student will be required to attend and conduct at two MSU Concert Band rehearsals (those not enrolled in Concert Band need only attend the very beginning of the rehearsal) If you have a course conflict with your schedule dates/times, discuss with the instructor in person. Specific date/time assignments will be provided in the first week of our course.

General Class Expectations:

MUSC 472 is a course designed to provide young professionals knowledge and practice in preparation for a career in music education. As such, each student is expected to comport themselves as professionals. Punctuality, both in regard to class attendance and assignment due dates, is inherent to professionalism. Similarly, a student's in-class participation and behaviors and their preparation for class activities and assessments should convey an individual who is passionate about personal growth and mastery of the requisite skills of their chosen profession. Conducting is a **SKILL** and must be **PRACTICED REGULARLY** in order to build the facility and confidence necessary to be effective. Falling short of these expectations will be reflected in a student's final course grade.

COURSE OVERVIEW / READING ASSIGNMENTS

CLASS MEETING		FOCUS	DUE	READING *	
JANUARY	Week 1	14	Course introduction / review syllabus. Conducting group assignments		
		16	Fundamentals review and practice	Flipgrid introduction video	
	Week 2	21	Fundamentals review and practice	Group A conducting #1 Terminology quiz #1	Stotter, UNIT 1-2 Supplement A
		23	Fundamentals review and practice	Group B conducting #1 Group A reflection #1	Stotter, UNIT 3 Supplement B
	Week 3	28	Fundamentals review and practice	Group C conducting #1 Group B reflection #1	Stotter, UNIT 4-5 Supplement C
		30	Transpositions	Group A conducting #2 Group C reflection #1 Flipgrid #1	Stotter, UNIT 6-7 Supplement D
FEBRUARY	Week 4	4	Transpositions / foreign musical terms	Group B conducting #2 Group A reflection #2 Trans. homework assignment Transposition quiz	
		6	KMEA CONFERENCE - NO CLASS		
	Week 5	11	Score study and preparation	Group C conducting #2 Group B: reflection #2 Terminology quiz #2	Stotter, UNIT 8. Supplement G
		13	Score study and preparation	Group A conducting #3 Group C reflection #2	
	Week 6	18	Score study and preparation	Group B conducting #3 Group A reflection #3 Clinic reflections <i>CB conducting rotation begins</i>	Supplement H
		20	Score study and preparation	Group C conducting #3 Group B reflection #3 Flipgrid #2	Supplement I
	Week 7	25	Rehearsal priorities/strategies	Group C reflection #3 Holst/Grainger prepared scores	Supplement J
		27	Rehearsal priorities/strategies		
MARCH	Week 8	3	Rehearsal priorities/strategies		
		5	Leadership from the podium	MID-TERM EXAM	
	Week 9	10	No Class - Dr. Dale @D6 Assessment		
		12	No Class - Dr. Dale @D6 Assessment	Flipgrid #3	
	Week 10	24	Leadership from the podium		Supplement M
		26	Introduction to error detection		
APRIL	Week 11	31	Error detection practice	Group A error detection	
		2	Error detection practice	Group B error detection Flipgrid #4	
	Week 12	7	Error detection practice	Group C error detection	
		9	Error detection practice	Group A error detection	
	Week 13	14	Error detection practice	Group B error detection	
		16	Error detection practice	Flipgrid #5	
	Week 14	21	Error detection practice	Group C error detection	
		23	Error detection practice	Group A error detection	
	Week 15	28	Error detection practice	Group B error detection	
		30	Error detection practice	Group C error detection Flipgrid #6	
	M	Week 16	5	EXAM WEEK	FINAL EXAM - 8:00am-10:00am

* Please note - the readings indicated should be read BEFORE the class with which they are associated.
Example: Stotter, UNIT 1-2, and Supplement A should be read BEFORE class on 1/16

ASSIGNMENT / ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

ASSIGNMENT	DESCRIPTION / DUE DATE	POINTS
In-Class Conducting	Each student will be assigned to one of three conducting groups. On their group's assigned days (three total), each student will be responsible for conducting an instrumental ensemble made up of their fellow classmates. Conducting excerpts and assessment criteria will be provided in advance of each round of conducting. Each conducting event will be recorded for later reflection. Due date: various depending on assigned group - see course overview for a calendar of assigned days.	30 (10x3)
Terminology Quiz #1	This assessment will cover essential conducting terminology. Date of assessment: January 21	25
Conducting Reflections	For each of the three group conducting days, students will submit a written reflection using a provided template as a guide. Due date: various depending on assigned group - see course overview for a calendar of due dates. Reflections are due at the beginning of class.	30 (10x3)
Flipgrid Assignments	Using the Flipgrid app, students will have six conducting assignments to record and submit for feedback. Each conducting assignment will include an excerpt and an assessment rubric. Due dates: Flipgrid #1-January 30, Flipgrid #2-February 20, Flipgrid #3-March 12, Flipgrid #4-April 2, Flipgrid #5-April 16, Flipgrid #6-April 30. Each Flipgrid is due by midnight on these dates.	60 (10x6)
Transposition Homework	An assignment designed to provide students with transposition practice prior to the transposition assessment. Due date: February 25, beginning of class	10
Transposition Quiz	This assessment covers knowledge of essential instrumental transpositions. Date of assessment: February 4	25
Terminology Quiz #2	This assessment will cover essential foreign language musical terms. Date of assessment: February 11	25
Band Clinic Reflection	Students will observe each of the Band Clinic guest conductors (3) for 45 minutes each and write a reflection using a provided template. Due date: February 25, beginning of class	25
Concert Band Conducting	Students will each be assigned two days during the semester (between February 18 and April 14) during which they will conduct warm-up chorales for the MSU Concert Band. An assessment rubric will be provided. Due date: varies per student—dates assigned during Week 1 of class.	20 (10x2)
Prepared Scores	Students will study and mark their original band scores for <i>First Suite in Eb</i> by Gustav Holst and <i>Irish Tune from County Derry</i> by Percy Grainger. Submitted scores will be assessed based on a provided rubric. Due date: February 25, beginning of class	30 (15x2)
Mid-Term Exam	Comprehensive examination of materials covered in the first seven weeks of the course. Date of assessment: March 5	25
Error Detection	Students will be assigned three days (assigned by their conducting group) to conduct an instrumental ensemble of their classmates through error detection exercises. Grade will be based on ability to detect/correct errors as well as improvement over the course of the three sessions. Due dates: various depending on group - see course overview for a calendar of due dates.	30 (10x3)
FINAL EXAM	Comprehensive examination of materials covered during the course. Date of assessment: May 5	25



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Classroom Environment:

Illegal: firearms or any other weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, and drug related items
Food, drinks other than water, tobacco products, and spit-cups are not permitted. Mobile devices must be placed on "silent" and stowed. Behavior that disrupts the learning environment is strictly forbidden.

Academic Honesty:

All students at Morehead State University are required to abide by accepted standards of academic honesty. Academic honesty includes doing one's own work, giving credit for the work of others, and using resources appropriately. Guidelines for dealing with acts of academic dishonesty can be found in the academic catalog.

ADA Statement:

Students with disabilities are entitled to academic accommodations and services to support their access and safety. The Office for Disability Services in 109-J Enrollment Services Center coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Although a request may be made at any time, services are best applied when they are requested at or before the start of the semester. Please contact Disability Services at 606-783-5188 or e.day@moreheadstate.edu or visit their website at www.moreheadstate.edu/disability

Campus Safety:

Emergency response information will be discussed in class. Students should familiarize themselves with the nearest exit routes in the event evacuation becomes necessary. You should notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester if you have special needs or will require assistance during an emergency evacuation. Students should familiarize themselves with emergency response protocols at:
www.moreheadstate.edu/emergency