

# MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

COURSE SYLLABUS
INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING
MUSC 472 001

**SPRING SEMESTER, 2025** 



## **INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING**

MUSC 472 001 SPRING SEMESTER, 2025

**Instructor:** DuWayne C. Dale, DMA, MBA

114 Baird Music Hall

Office Hours: T/TH, 10:30am-1:00pm, others by appointment

dcdale@moreheadstate.edu

Class

**Meeting Times:** 

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

Catalog Course
Description:

MUSC 472 - 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 Basic Conducting

## 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)

Set of highlighters of various colors

# 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 and other sources will be provided via our course Blackboard page.



## **Attendance:** \*See special note about attendance at the end of this document

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

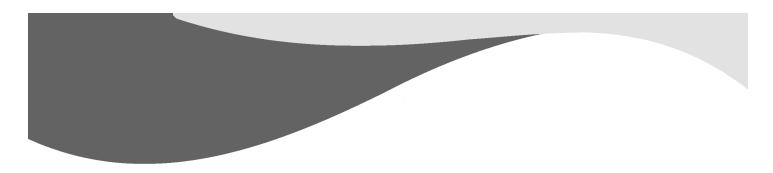
Excused absences sometimes occur (absences that fall under the UAR 103.05 guidelines above and for which the notifications instructions below have been followed). Despite excused status, though, absenteeism prevents a student from being able to receive instruction, practice requisite skills, participate 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 SIX (6) class absences (approx. 20% of class meetings), <u>regardless</u> of excused/unexcused status, will fail the course.

#### **Notification Instructions:**

- Students must complete an <u>EXCUSED ABSENCE REQUEST FORM</u> and submit with acceptable
  documentation for any absence to be considered for excused status (the form is now online and
  documentation must be uploaded at the time of submission).
- Any absence not accompanied by the <u>EXCUSED ABSENCE REQUEST FORM</u> and acceptable documentation will be considered unexcused.



### **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:**

Α	=	90% to 100% of available points
В	=	80% to 89% of available points
C	=	70% to 79% of available points
D	=	60% to 69% of available points
Ε	=	0% to 59% of available points

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

## 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."

### **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 himself/herself 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 his/her 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							
CLA	SS MEETI	NG	FOCUS	NOTES	READING*			
JANUARY	Week 1	14	Course overview	Terms list supplied, syllabus overview, rubrics distributed, Self-Assessment assigned, Discuss video submissions				
		16	No class meeting - Dr. Dale @ KMEA Di					
	Week 2	21	Fundamentals Review	Suppl. A summary due by 11:59pm Self-Assessment due in class	Stotter, Unit 1-7, 9 Supplement A-E			
		23	Fundamentals Review	Terminology Quiz in class	Stotter, Unit 4-7, 9 Supplement C/D/E			
	Week 3	28	Fundamentals/Transposition Review	Transp. homework due in class Video #1 due by 11:59pm	Supplement F			
		30	Malko exercises - introduction					
	Week 4	4	Malko exercises	Transposition quiz in class. Video #2 due by 11:59pm				
		6	No class meeting - KMEA State Profess	ional In-Service Conference				
<b>≥</b>	Week 5	11	Malko exercises					
JAF			Score study and preparation	Materials provided in class				
FEBRUARY	Week 6	18	Score study and preparation	Suppl. G/H/I summary due by 11:59pm	Stotter, Unit 8 Supplement G/H/I			
		20	Score study and preparation	Guided Obser. due at start of class Video #3 due by 11:59pm				
	Week 7	25	Laban gestures - introduction	Suppl. J summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement J			
		27	Laban gestures					
	Week 8	4	Laban gestures	Suppl. K summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement K			
		6	Laban gestures	Video #4 due by 11:59pm				
MARCH	Week 9	11 14	Laban gestures Error detection introduction		Spradling, pp 6-12			
	Week 10	25	Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class Suppl. L summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement L			
		27	Error detection practice	Video #5 due by 11:59pm Bring instruments to class				
APRIL	Week 11	1	Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class				
		3	Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class Suppl. M summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement M			
	Week 12	8	Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class Suppl. N summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement N			
		10	Error detection practice	Video #6 due by 11:59pm Bring instruments to class				
	Week 13	15	Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class Suppl. O summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement 0			
			Error detection practice	Bring instruments to class				
	Week 14	22	Error detection assessment	Bring instruments to class Suppl. P summary due by 11:59pm	Supplement P			
		24	No class meeting - KMEA District 8 Larg					
<u> </u>	Week 15 29 Error detection assessment Bring instruments to class							
MAY		1	Error detection assessment	Bring instruments to class				
Σ	Week 16	8	Final Exam - 8am-10am, BMH 117	Bring instruments				

ASSIGNMENT / ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW					
<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	DESCRIPTION / DUE DATE	<b>POINTS</b>			
Self-	Students will self-evaluate their level of proficiency on a variety of skill learned in the	10			
Assessment	prerequisite course to Instrumental Conducting. <b>Due at the start of class on 1/21</b>				
Supplement	Using the Discussion section of our class Blackboard page, students will provide a	45			
Summaries	brief summary of select supplemental course readings. All readings are available	(5x9)			
	under Course Documents in Blackboard. <b>Due at 11:59pm on various dates—see</b>				
	Course Overview for specific dates for each summary				
Terminology	This assessment will cover essential conducting terminology. <b>Assessment in class</b>	30			
Quiz	on 1/23				
Video	Students will have six conducting assignments to record and submit for feedback.	90			
Assignments	Each conducting assignment will include an excerpt and an assessment rubric. <b>Due</b>	(15x6)			
	at 11:59pm on various dates—see Course Overview for specific dates for each				
	Video assignment				
Transposition	An assignment designed to provide students with transposition practice prior to the	10			
Homework	transposition assessment. <b>Due at the start of class on 1/28</b>				
Transposition	This assessment covers knowledge of essential instrumental transpositions.	30			
Quiz	Assessment in class on 2/4				
Band Clinic	Students will observe guest conductors for 30 minutes in each during our MSU High	15			
Guided	School Band Clinic (90-120 minutes total). Students will complete and submit a guided				
Observation	reflection document. <b>Due at the start of class on 2/20</b>				
Reports					
Error	Following extensive practice, each student will be assessed on his/her ability to	50			
Detection	detect errors in a large-group performance setting. <b>Assessment in class on 4/22,</b>				
	4/29, and 5/1				



#### **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, including artificial intelligence. Guidelines for dealing with acts of academic dishonesty can be found in the academic catalog and at <a href="Student Academic Misconduct: UAR 145.01">Student Academic Misconduct: UAR 145.01</a>.

#### Student Use of Generative AI:

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a type of AI that generates new content such as text, images, audio, video, software code, and more that can mimic human creation in response to a user prompt and question. These Generative AI tools include but are not limited to tools such as ChatGPT, Copilot, Claude, Gemini, etc.

As you explore the benefits of Al tools in your studies, it's important to remember that these technologies are designed to learn from the data provided to them. Avoid entering any personal, sensitive, or confidential information into Al prompts, such as your identification numbers, grades, passwords, or personal addresses. Treat these tools like a public space for information—only enter general or non-sensitive data to keep your personal information safe and secure. Protecting your privacy is essential, so let's use Al wisely! For the purposes of this course, please note that students' work submitted for this course section must be their own. The use of generative artificial intelligence (Al) tools at all stages of the work process is prohibited in this course.

#### **ADA Statement:**

Students with disabilities are entitled to academic accommodations and services to support their access and safety needs. The Office for Disability Services in 202 ADUC 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 <a href="mailton@moreheadstate.edu">m.litton@moreheadstate.edu</a>, or visit their website at <a href="https://moreheadstate.edu/student-support/disability-services">https://moreheadstate.edu/student-support/disability-services</a> for more information. NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any special needs before the end of the second week of classes and to provide appropriate documentation.

#### **Emergency Procedures:**

Students should familiarize themselves with emergency response protocols at: www.moreheadstate.edu/emergency. Emergency response information will be reviewed in class. Students should familiarize themselves with the nearest exit routes in campus spaces 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.

#### **Success Resource Links for Students**

Academic resources and support: <u>Tutoring & Learning Center</u>, <u>Office of Retention & Academic Advising</u>, <u>Course Placement & Testing</u>, <u>Center for Career Development & Experiential Education</u>

Technology support: <u>Computing resources</u>, <u>Blackboard and Online Course Resources</u> Mental and Physical Heath resources: <u>Counseling & Health Services</u>, <u>Recreation & Wellness</u>

Financial resources: Financial Aid, Eagle Essentials/SHARE Fund/Eagle Emergency Loans (food & essential items/emergency financial assistance)