# MUSI 2226-01: Conducting I

Dr. Joshua Bronfman GPAC 220B joshua.bronfman@shsu.edu 936-294-1391 Office hours by appointment

Textbook: None Required

Basic Techniques of Conducting, Kenneth H. Phillips The Modern Conductor, Elizabeth Green, ed. 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

Course Materials: Metronome, Conducting Baton 12"-14", Video recording device

# **Course Description**

Conducting I is an introductory course designed to give students a basic understanding of the skills and concepts necessary for the beginning conductor, including a basic understanding of the fundamental aspects of technical control, expression, and conductor presentation and demeanor. Assignments will include readings, written work, and in-class conducting/presentations.

#### **Course Content**

- Nature of The Conductor
- Hand and Body Position
- Basic Patterns in 2, 3, and 4
- Cueing: Simple Entrances and Cutoffs
- Articulation: Legato, Staccato, Marcato
- Cueing: Internal
- Baton Technique
- Other Patterns in 1 and 6
- Complex Patterns: 2 vs 3, 5, 7
- Tempo Changes
- Hand Independence, Use of Left Hand
- Cueing: Entrances and Cutoffs on Incomplete Beats
- Treatment of Fermatas
- Subdivision and Syncopation
- Preparing the Score, Internalizing the Score

# Grading

Daily Participation, Attendance	30%
Assignments	60%
Large Exams	10%

#### **Attendance**

Attendance will be taken at every class. Two absences are allowed for any reason. For each subsequent absence our grade will be lowered by one letter grade. Exceptions to this policy will be made only in extreme circumstances (as determined by instructor) and with documentation (e.g. death in immediate family, extreme illness, official university functions). Tardiness impacts your grade as well. If you are late more than one or two times, expect your grade to be lowered as a result.

### **Make-up Assignments**

If you miss your in class conducting time, you cannot make it up. Late paper based assignments will be lowered by one letter grade per class period late.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <a href="http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty">http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty</a>

**STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <a href="http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\_www/aps/811006.pdf">http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\_www/aps/811006.pdf</a>

Calendar

Week 1 (8/24) In Class: What Does a Conductor Do, Introductions, Discuss

Materials, Review Syllabus, Safe Place to make Mistakes

Homework: Read Lesson 2 and 3 and do guided practice sections.

Week 2 (8/29, 8/31) In Class: Body Position, Hand/Arm, Ictus, Prep steps, 4 pattern

Homework:

Week 3 (9/5, 9/7)

Week 4 (9/12, 9/14)

Week 5 (9/19, 9/21)

Week 6 (9/26, 9/28)

Week 7 (10/3, 10/5)

Week 8 (10/10, 10/12)

Week 9 (10/17, 10/19)

Week 10 (10/24, 10/26)

Week 11 (gone 10/31, 11/2)

Week 12 (11/7, 11/9 (NATS)

Week 13 (11/14, 11/16)

Week 14 (11/21 (Thanksgiving 11/23)

Week 15 (11/28, 11/30)

Final Exam Time - Thursday 12/7, 9:30a-11:30a