

## Basic Conducting I

### Course Syllabus

Instructors: Andrew Boysen and Casey Goodwin  
Office numbers: M101 and M108  
Phone numbers: 862-2405 and 862-3259  
Email: [andrew.boysen@unh.edu](mailto:andrew.boysen@unh.edu) and [casey.goodwin@unh.edu](mailto:casey.goodwin@unh.edu)  
Office hours by appointment (Goodwin: <http://bit.ly/GoodwinAppt>)

### Purposes and Objectives:

The purpose of the class is to introduce students to the basic concepts, techniques and skills of conducting. Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the various gestural techniques used in conducting. These include using different meters and styles and communicating with an ensemble through gestures of varied speed, duration and intensity.
2. Associate gestural techniques with their appropriate musical effect, including the ability to aurally analyze an ensemble's performance.
3. Understand the basics of score study and analysis, including the various transpositions and clefs involved in instrumental ensembles.
4. Understand basic rehearsal techniques and other administrative duties faced by the conductor.

### Meeting Times:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday      10:10 am - 11:00 am      Room: M226

### Materials:

Text: Hunsberger, Donald and Roy Ernst. *The Art of Conducting* (second edition). New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1992.

Score: One of the following:

*Rhythm Stand* - Jennifer Higdon (Hal Leonard)

*Intermezzo* from *St. Paul's Suite* – Gustav Holst (imslp)

*Good Night, Dear Heart* – Dan Forrest (Hinshaw Music)

Baton: 10, 12 or 14 inch baton with fiberglass shaft and wood or cork handle

Video: Phone, tablet, or laptop

Instrument: Bring your instrument to each class period unless notified otherwise.

**Grading:**

Grading will be based on the following:

1. General work-20%

6 in-class conducting performances (informal grade)

Each of the six performances will be video recorded. Before the next class period, you must view your performance and record a written evaluation on the sheets provided and then turn this evaluation in at the next class. You will receive half credit for the performance if you fail to turn in the evaluation.

2. Final Score Preparation Assignment-10%

3. Conducting Exams-30%

3 exams (each worth 10% of overall grade)

4. Transposition Exam-5%

You MUST retake this exam until receiving at least an 80 in order to pass the course.

5. Written Final Exam-15%

6. Final Score Performance-20%

A 100–94%    A- <94–90%    B+<90–87%    B <87–84%    B- <84–80%    C+<80–77%;  
C <77–74%    C- <84–80%    D+ <70–67%    D<67–64%    D- <64–61%    F <61%

**Statement on Disabilities:**

If you are a student with a documented disability or believe you may have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 201 Smith Hall. Accommodation letters are created by SAS with the student. Please follow-up with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure timely implementation of the identified accommodations in the letter. Faculty have an obligation to respond once they receive official notice of accommodations from SAS, but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. For more information refer to [www.unh.edu/studentaccessibility](http://www.unh.edu/studentaccessibility) or contact SAS at 603.862.2607, 711 (Relay NH) or [sas.office@unh.edu](mailto:sas.office@unh.edu).

**Statement on Mental Health Distress:**

Your academic success in this course is very important to us. If, during the semester, you find emotional or mental health issues are affecting that success, please contact the University's Counseling Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Smith Hall or at (603) 862-2090. They provide counseling appointments and other mental health services.

**Statement on Music Health and Safety:**

The Department of Music adheres to the National Association of Schools of Music Health and Safety Standards. You can find information relating to this subject on our web page: <https://cola.unh.edu/music/health-safety>

**Statement on Attendance:**

Active participation appropriate to the education and performance profession is required in this course. It is expected that you attend all classes, even if you are not scheduled to conduct. If you are unable to be in class for any reason when you are scheduled to conduct you must switch with someone else (essentially finding a sub). In an emergency situation, you must secure an excuse letter from the Dean of Students to be permitted to make it up.

**Video Information:**

Every time you conduct in class (other than exams), you should record yourself on video. You will be required to watch your videos and fill out a self-evaluation form each time you conduct.

You should use your own personal recording device (e.g. phone or tablet). Let us know if this is not possible and we will find a suitable alternative. You will want to keep some of these videos for your future portfolio.

**Calendar:***Week 1*

Wednesday 1-26 Introduction, Syllabus, Posture, Preps, 4 and 3 beat patterns  
**Read:** Introduction, Chapter 1

Friday 1-28 Releases, Articulation styles  
**Prepare:** Chapter 1 excerpts (all except 1-8)

*Week 2*

Monday 1-31 Conduct Chapter 1 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 1 excerpts (continue)

Wednesday 2-2 Conduct Chapter 1 excerpts  
**Read:** Chapter 2

Friday 2-4 2 beat pattern, Dynamics, Ambidextrous conducting, Alternative pattern styles  
**Prepare:** Chapter 2 excerpts (all except 2-5, but include 1-8)

*Week 3*

Monday 2-7 Conduct Chapter 2 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 2 excerpts (continue)

Wednesday 2-9 Conduct Chapter 2 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Excerpts 1-2, 1-7, 2-1, 2-2, 2-6

Friday 2-11 **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**

*Week 4*

Monday  
2-14                    **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**  
**Read:** Chapter 3 and Chapter 7 (p. 95)

Wednesday  
2-16                    Left hand, 1 beat pattern, Dynamics, Baton grip, Subito dynamic changes  
**Prepare:** Chapter 3 excerpts (all)

Friday  
2-18                    Conduct Chapter 3 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 3 excerpts (continue)

*Week 5*

Monday  
2-21                    Conduct Chapter 3 excerpts  
**Read:** Chapter 4

Wednesday  
2-23                    Conduct Chapter 3 excerpts, Entrances on beats 2, 3, and 4, Cues  
**Read:** Chapter 7 (pp. 97-103)

Friday  
2-25                    Cues, Fermatas  
**Prepare:** Chapter 4 excerpts (all except 4-3, 4-6, 4-9)

*Week 6*

Monday  
2-28                    Conduct Chapter 4 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 4 excerpts (continue)

Wednesday  
3-2                     Conduct Chapter 4 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 4 excerpts (continue)

Friday  
3-4                     Conduct Chapter 4 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Excerpts 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, 4-1, 4-5

*Week 7*

Monday  
3-7                     **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**

Wednesday  
3-9                     **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**  
**Read:** Chapter 5

Friday  
3-11                    No Class

*Week 8*

Monday  
3-14                    No Class – Spring Break

Wednesday            No Class – Spring Break

3-16

Friday  
3-18 No Class – Spring Break

*Week 9*

Monday  
3-21 Transposition, Clefs  
**Study:** Transpositions  
**Read:** Chapter 6 (pp.82-93)

Wednesday  
3-23 Subdivision, Compound meters, Entrances on incomplete beats  
**Prepare:** Chapter 6 excerpts (all except 6-6)

Friday  
3-25 Conduct Chapter 6 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 6 excerpts (continue)

*Week 10*

Monday  
3-28 Conduct Chapter 6 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Chapter 6 excerpts (continue)

Wednesday  
3-30 Conduct Chapter 6 excerpts  
**Read:** Chapter 7

Friday  
4-1 **Transposition Exam**

*Week 11*

Monday  
4-4 Dynamic accents and changes, syncopations, tempo changes, tenuto, review fermatas  
**Prepare:** Ch. 7 excerpts (7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-6, 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, 7-11 Introit only)

Wednesday  
4-6 Conduct Chapter 7 excerpts

Friday  
4-8 No Class – NHMEA Spring Conference

*Week 12*

Monday  
4-11 Conduct Chapter 7 excerpts

Wednesday  
4-13 Conduct Chapter 7 excerpts  
**Prepare:** Excerpts 6-3, 6-5, 6-8, 7-9, 7-10

Friday  
4-15 Analysis and Score Preparation (Final Score)

*Week 13*

Monday Analysis and Score Preparation (Final Score)

4-18

Wednesday **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**

4-20

Friday **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one)**

4-22

*Week 14*

Monday **Conducting Exam (you pick one, we pick one), turn in Final Score**  
**Study:** For written final exam

4-25

Wednesday **Written Final Exam**

4-27

Friday Introduction to Laban  
**Read:** Chapters 10 and 11

4-29

*Week 15*

Monday Programming and Administration, Conducting Accompaniments  
**Prepare:** Final Score Performance

5-2

Wednesday **Final Score Performance**

5-4

Friday **Final Score Performance**

5-6

*Week 16*

Monday **Final Score Performance**

5-9